

FEAR OF EXPLOSION DELAYS RESCUERS

FIRE RAGING WHERE
MINERS ARE ENTOMBED

Few Offers to Reclaim Bodies from
Darr Mine—"Sky Ferry"
to Carry Dead.

Jacobs Creek, Dec. 21.—In the short distance, rescuers were able to penetrate the Darr mine, the scene of Thursday's awful explosion last night. Half a dozen bodies were found and brought to the surface, making the total number that has reached the morgue up to this morning, 12.

While a vast amount of work was done during the night not much progress was made towards the entries in which the great mass of bodies are entombed. The danger of another explosion is imminent and the rescuers dare not venture far ahead of the erecting party. Vast quantities of gas have been encountered and the volume seems to be steadily increasing, due possibly to the opening of new fissures in the earth, resultant from the terrific explosion.

There is also a strong suspicion, prompted by the waves of hot air that are said to come from that direction, that fierce fire is already raging far back in the workings and if the flames should reach the deposits of coal dust known to be in the rooms, nothing could prevent a new catastrophe which would have the rescuers for victims. The company officials have ordered that exploring parties shall advance only as fast as the passage way can be cleared of gas, ventilated, and otherwise made safe.

So bad is the general idea of the connections in the mine, that, contrary to all precedents in mine disasters, there is no enthusiasm over joining the rescue. There are few volunteers for the service and those who do enter are exercising the greatest caution.

While what appears to be the most reliable estimates of the number of victims are near 200 there are several who insist that the final list of dead will contain many more names. Conspicuous among these are Michael Hallahy, national organizer for the United Mine Workers of America, who has assumed charge of the situation, Mr. Hallahy says:

"I have made a house to house canvass among the families here and am certain that there are 300 dead men in the Darr mine. One of the greatest difficulties in bringing the bodies across the river to their homes, the only direct means of communication between the two points is the "Sky ferry," used by the miners. This is a basket car travelling on a cable, and will not hold a casket alone, not to mention the men that would have to accompany it to propel the car. There are bridges some above and below the mine but it would be almost impossible to haul the caskets across the country on either side of the river to and from the bridges. It may be decided to erect a "Sky ferry" on a larger scale to accommodate the coffins and their attendants.

Evidence of much suffering and distress among these dependent upon the victims, has already been disclosed, and steps have been taken to organize a relief committee. Mark Adams, said to be the son of wealthy and indulgent parents, living in New York, a young man just out of his teens is said to have met death in the mine. Three months ago Adams sought employment as a day hand at the mines. He intended to leave for the East next Sunday. His body has not yet been recovered, but a summons has been sent to his parents.

Cunard Schuth, 38 years of age, crazed by the death in the mine of his son and other relatives, ended his own life yesterday by drowning himself in the river near the mine. He was a widower and leaves four small children.

MINE WAGES IN PROVINCE

Board of Conciliation Settling Differences Sits at Nelson.

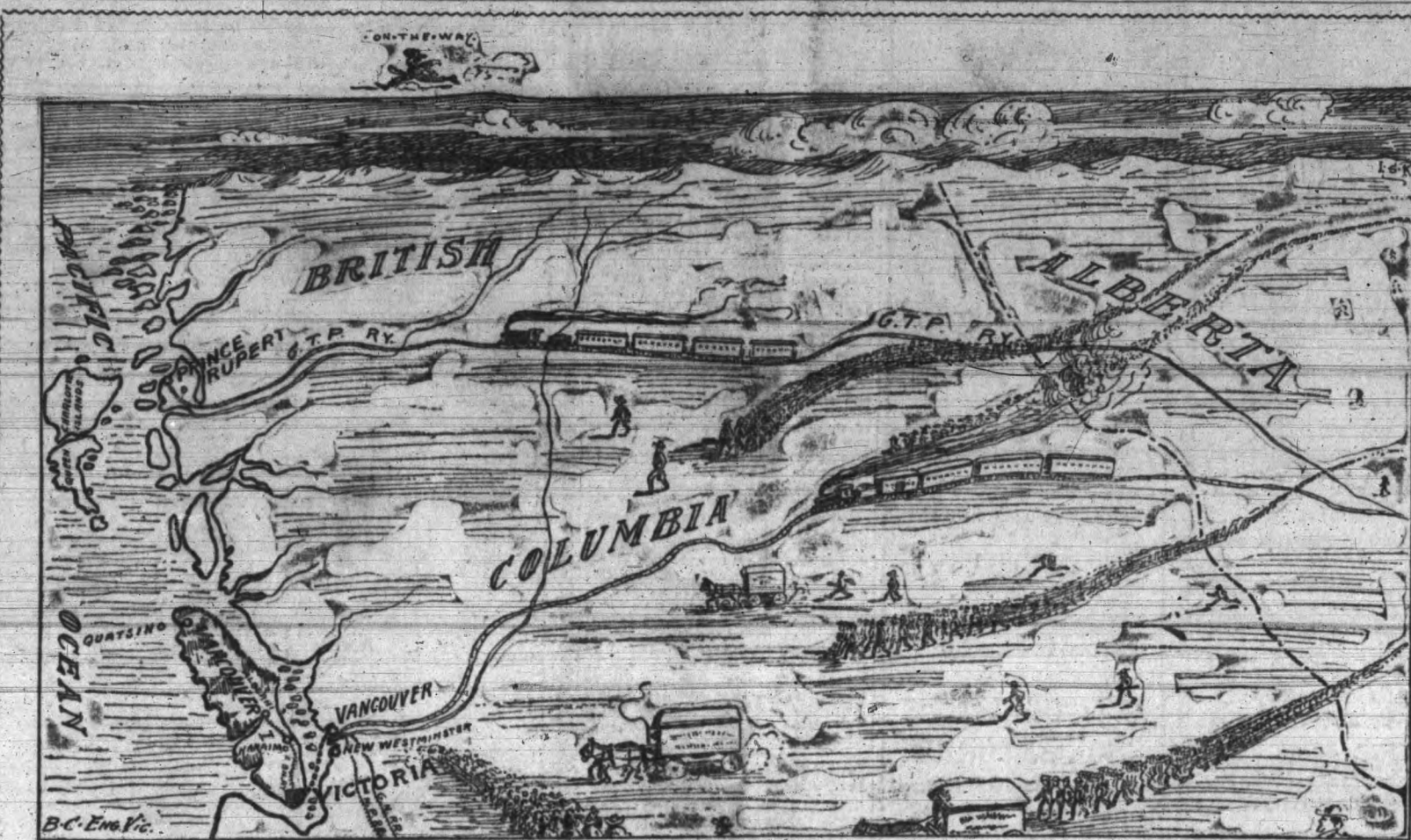
Nelson, Dec. 20.—The arbitration and conciliation board, consisting of S. S. Taylor, K. C. of this city; Judge P. E. Wilson, Cranbrook, and J. A. Harvey, Cranbrook, appointed to settle the differences between the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company and its employees at the St. Eugene mine and mill at Moxie, East Kootenay, completed its labors here to-day and reserved its decision. The company wants a reduction in wages and the men object. The chief evidence taken yesterday and to-day concerned the scale of wages and the cost of living throughout the Kootenays.

TO SETTLE IN PROVINCE

Portage La Prairie, Dec. 20.—John R. McDonald, one of the old timers of the plains who is leaving to reside in British Columbia, was given a banquet at the Albion hotel by his many friends, and presented with a gold pocket watch, accompanied by an address.

CARBOLIC SUICIDE

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Mamie Pepper, aged 27, waitress at the Occidental hotel, Toronto Junction, committed suicide by drinking carboic acid to-day.



A BRIGHT PROSPECT

Attention Is Being Directed to B. C. as Never Before, and Tide of Immigration Is Setting This Way.

ARREST MADE IN TRUNK MYSTERY

MYSTERIOUS NEW YORK
TRAGEDY REVIVED

Grim Story of Murdered Armenian
Priest—Sarkasian Tells of
Discovering Body.

New York, Dec. 21.—Paul Sarkasian, in whose room in West Thirty-Seventh street the body of Father Kaspar Vartorian, the murdered Armenian priest, was found on May 26th last, was arrested last night.

Sarkasian returned to the United States five days ago from Marseilles, to which city he fled after the murder. He was later arrested there, but as no action looking to his extradition was taken, he was released.

Recently he told the police he was told at the United States consulate at Marseilles that he could safely return to the United States.

Father Vartorian was murdered presumably for the money he carried, though some found a connection between his death and the political ideas he had promulgated. The body was placed in a trunk and left in a furnished room occupied by Sarkasian and John Morrodian.

Sarkasian, who is 23 years of age, last night denied complicity in the murder. He said that he was employed in a restaurant at the time. On the night of May 22nd he went to his room and there found the trunk containing the priest's body. It had been brought to the room after he had left that morning. He found a key and opened the trunk, recognized the body of the priest. It was still warm.

He remained in the room all night, but Morrodian did not return. The next day, fearing that suspicion would be directed towards him, he left for Montreal. From there he sailed for Europe. While in Montreal Sarkasian said he communicated with his brother-in-law, Manoghazarian, at 40 Quai de la Gare, Providence, R. I., who sent him \$120.

WHERE THE CHILD WAS BORN.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—On the train from Cobalt to Toronto, which arrived here this morning, Mrs. P. H. Fullerton, of New Liskeard, who was coming to the city, gave birth to a child in the stateroom of one of the Pullman cars. There was a physician on board, and mother and child were doing well when the train reached the city.

G. T. R. AND PENNY RATE.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The G. T. R. will apply to parliament for the repeal of the penny a mile rate between Montreal and Toronto imposed in the original charter.

POWER HOUSE BURNED.

Hamilton, Dec. 20.—The power house and substation of the Cataract Power Company at Irondequoit was destroyed by fire to-day.

CIVIL SERVICE SUCCESSES.

A. P. Huggett, of Victoria, One of Candidates Who Passed Examination.

(Special to the Times).
Ottawa, Dec. 21.—The following passed successfully the civil service examinations in November: At Victoria, Huggett and Alfred Percy; at Vancouver, Clarke, Lewis Grant, Geo. A. McClellan, M. H. Reid, Q. S. Selwood, Archibald Tynhall and Roy Watson.

WILL SPEND CHRISTMAS HERE.

C. E. Usher, C. P. R. Passenger Traffic Manager, En Route For Victoria.

(Special to the Times).

Winnipeg, Dec. 21.—C. E. Usher, passenger traffic manager of the C. P. R., left for Victoria, B. C., this evening on a Christmas visit to his family, who are spending the winter there.

ROOSEVELT REGARDS TROUBLE AS OVER

Orders Withdrawal of Troops from
Goldfield—Consternation
Among Mine Owners

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt to-day directed the withdrawal of the United States troops stationed at Goldfield, Nev., on Monday, December 20th.

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 20.—The Goldfield Mine Owners' Association refused to-day to recognize the Western Federation of Miners as a labor organization, or deal with the local miners' union as a body.

Fifty strike-breakers arrived from California to-day. They were in charge of detectives and guides, and were taken to the temporary boarding house which has been erected at the mine for them. Many members of the Western Federation of Miners were gathered at the station, but beyond the passage of some uncomplimentary remarks nothing occurred.

President Roosevelt's order removing the federal troops from Goldfield on December 20th to-day caused consternation among the mine owners and the residents of Goldfield. The news was received at noon, and during the afternoon conference was held by Capt. Coy, the representative of Governor Sparks in Goldfield, Colonel Reynolds, commanding the federal troops, and representatives of the miners. The people of Goldfield are greatly apprehensive that trouble will come when the troops depart, and there will be great pressure brought to bear on the president to countermand his order, at least as to a portion of the federal troops.

The union leaders say they will do their utmost to maintain peace.

PRINCE ALBERT DEBENTURES.

Prince Albert, Sask., Dec. 20.—The sale of \$150,000 of city debentures to the Imperial Bank was concluded to-day.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

London, Dec. 21.—At a Privy Council meeting held at Buckingham Palace this morning King Edward signed a proclamation definitely summoning parliament to meet on January 29th.

WILL LAY OUT MODEL ESTATE

HATLEY PARK TO BE
A BEAUTIFUL PLACE

Hon. James Dunsinuir Is Having
Preliminary Work Done—Plans
Not Completed.

Already Hon. James Dunsinuir has commenced work on laying out his new estate on the Lagoon opposite Esquimalt. The estate known as Hatley Park was purchased some little time ago, as announced in the Times. It contains 230 acres and is admirably situated for the purposes to which Hon. Mr. Dunsinuir will devote it.

While the plans for the laying out of the property have not been completed, some work is already in progress. About thirty-two men are engaged clearing away a part which had been cleared of timber some time ago. The stumps are being removed and preparations are in progress looking to the occupation of the estate next year.

Hatley Park is well supplied at the present time with wooded lands, which abound in grouse and pheasants. It will be an easy matter, therefore, to carry out a scheme by which the game may be increased in large numbers. The plans for the residence to be put up are not completed yet, but the promise is that a model home will be built. Field granite may possibly be used in some of the lower stories, with trimmings of Australian stone, which lends itself readily to ornamentation. The interior will be of the very best type. In the hands of landscape gardeners the estate will, it is fully expected, become the best appointed in the province.

To present a body of men are engaged by Contractor Caffery on the foundations. The plans are being prepared by S. McCleure, architect.

CREDIT SYSTEMS OF ANGLO-SAXONDOM

Secretary of War Haldane Dealt
With Hoarding Instinct in
United States.

Edinburgh, Dec. 20.—In a speech to-night Richard Burton Haldane, secretary of state for war, compared the British and American credit systems, having reference to the prophesies of a few years back that within a reasonable time the centre of the money market and the source of credit would migrate to New York.

Mr. Haldane said that the Americans had just shown an instinct for hoarding, with the result that the banks had no reserves. In Great Britain, on the contrary, money was being placed in the banks and thence with the Bank of England, creating a reserve on which

the credit of the whole world depended. That was the remarkable outcome of a remarkable instinct, he declared.

Perhaps it was just because the British government did not superintend the country's credit arrangements that the arrangements were the most successful of any of the nations. The Bank of England, the speaker added, was a private concern, yet it always succeeded in maintaining its universal character of being the greatest depository in the whole civilized world.

GREAT ARMADA REPORTED.

On Board U. S. Connecticut, Dec. 20. (By Wireless to New York.)—At noon to-day the United States battleship fleet is 150 miles north by northwest of the Island of St. Thomas. Fine weather continues, with light winds. The Missouri left the fleet this afternoon to land Fireman R. Northway, who is ill.

IMPROVEMENTS IN PACIFIC DIVISION

Conference of C. P. R. Officials
Concludes at Winnipeg—Directors
Meet Early Next Month

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—The conference at the local offices of the C. P. R. with respect to the appropriations that are to be made with respect to the Pacific divisions for the next season were completed yesterday afternoon, and Superintendent Busted left last night for Vancouver. The matter of the proposed expenditure has been set forth during the past three days, by Superintendent Busted and Divisional Engineer Cartwright, and submitted to Mr. Whyte, who, it is understood, has approved of many important improvements to be completed next year. Mr. Whyte, however, will leave for Montreal to be present at the general meeting of the directors early in the new year, and the whole matter of appropriations to be made over the entire division will come up for consideration.

No announcement of what is to be done will be made until after the holding of the general meeting. The Pacific division over which Mr. Busted has jurisdiction during the past two years, will, during the coming year, be given its share, and General Superintendent Price will arrive in the city on Tuesday to confer with Mr. Whyte and with the other officials of the road regarding his division.

ALL RED ROUTE.

Clifford Sifton Returns to Ottawa From His Mission in England.

(Special to the Times).

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—Hon. Clifford Sifton returned from England to-day where he was in connection with the All Red Route. While Mr. Sifton has nothing to say for publication, it is understood that his mission was very successful.

FRISCO'S NEW ARCHBISHOP.

Rome, Dec. 21.—It is expected that the decision regarding the appointment of a coordinator archbishop of San Francisco will be given at a meeting of the congregation of the propaganda on January 13th or January 20th. Archbishop Rondoni is confident that Rev. Dr. Edward J. Hanna, of Rochester, N. Y., will be chosen for the place.

INSANE TORTURED IN NEW YORK

ATTENDANTS CHARGED
WITH CALLOUS CRIMES

Imbeciles and Weak Patients Selected,
Said Witness—Hanging One
Form of Punishment

New York, Dec. 21.—Stories of the alleged cruelties to insane patients by attendants were told yesterday in the hearing of the commission appointed by Governor Hughes to investigate conditions in the Manhattan state hospital at Edward Island.

Dr. John McCarthy, a former attendant, said the attendants were always careful to practice their brutalities upon the weak patients and upon imbeciles.

Dr. McCarthy described "hanging" as a method of torture. He said the process was to tie a towel around a patient's neck and twist it until the victim was on the verge of suffocation. The witness declared that there were little or no provocations for the attacks.

Dr. McCarthy related that an attendant on one occasion struck a patient on the chin with a bottle. The patient's jaw was broken by the blow. The hearing was adjourned until to-day.

GRANBY DEADLOCK.

Horizon Said to Be Clearing—Men May Resume Work.

(Special to the Times).

Grand Forks, Dec. 19.—At a meeting of the Labor union held here last evening a vote was taken on the question of going back to work at reduced wages, the result of which, however, will not be made public until a similar vote has been taken in Phoenix. It is fully considered that both parties are being brought nearer together and that things look better now for a settlement of the labor smelter trouble than heretofore.

BRITISH IMMIGRANTS.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—English immigration was the subject of debate by St. George's Society to-night. A resolution was passed and sent to the English papers expressing confidence in British immigrants for farm work, but denouncing interested agents and winter or fall shipments of indiscriminate selections.

VITROL VICTIM.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The contents of a bottle of vitrol was thrown in the face of John Clancy as he was leaving his boarding house at 101 Defoe street last night. His face is badly burned, and he is not able to see yet. This is the third assault of this kind that has been made on Clancy.

M. PAQUIN DEAD.

Paris, Dec. 20.—M. Paquin, the famous dressmaker, is dead.

PUEBLA WAS STORM BOUND

FRISCO LINER HOVE-TO
TWICE ON TRIP

Wireless Operator on Board Heard
Pachena Seven Hundred
Miles Overland

Ending the longest and stormiest trip in her long service, the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's steamship City of Puebla came to the outer wharf at 3:30 o'clock this morning, seventy and a half hours from San Francisco.

As reported by wireless from the vessel to the Dominion government station at Gonzales hill, the Puebla ran into a terrific hurricane on Thursday when off Cape Blanco and, after battling with the wind and sea for several hours, was hove to off Heceta Head at 10 p. m. Capt. Shea and his officers were kept continually on duty, the steamship being tossed about in the tumultuous seas as if it were a feather. A delay of seven hours saw a slight moderation in the weather, and the Puebla started north again, making a little over half her usual speed against the wind.

At 5 p. m. last night the wind again increased to a hurricane and the steamship was once more hove to, this time off Destruction Island, until 8 p. m. All night long the Puebla fought with the elements, and it was not till 4:45 o'clock this morning that she passed Tatoosh into the shelter of the straits.

The officers characterize the trip as the roughest in their experience, and are loud in their praises of Capt. Shea for his caution and judgment. Confidence in the ship's officers prevailed among the passengers and there was little alarm at the exceptionally severe weather that was met with.

The advantages conferred on the shipping world by wireless telegraphy, were admirably illustrated on the trip. J. R. Lytle, the Massey operator on the Puebla, keeping the agents in Victoria and Seattle posted on the vessel's whereabouts. Where anxiety might have been felt for the steamship, assurances of her safety were given to the agents and the public.

Mr. Lytle was the first operator to speak to the Dominion government wireless station at Gonzales hill, he being at that time operator on the President. He was also the first operator to communicate with the new Pachena station on Monday night.

In conversation with a Times reporter, Mr. Lytle told of the latter achievement. "I was on board the Puebla while she was lying at the wharf in San Francisco last Monday night, and about 7:30 o'clock I heard someone calling. The call was exceptionally loud and I was surprised to hear the message, 'This is the Dominion government station at Pachena.' It was the first message sent out from Pachena and I was astonished to find that the message came as distinctly as messages from the Fralones, just outside San Francisco. The message travelled over 700 miles, mainly across land, and I think that the clearness of the sound dispels the belief that long-distance messages over mountainous country are seldom successful. I find both the Gonzales hill and Pachena stations to be excellent both in receiving and sending messages. At the time that Pachena spoke to me the power was on, and I was unable to send a message of congratulation to the operator."

The Puebla brought a fairly large amount of freight, and after discharging sixty tons of it at the outer wharf, sailed for the Sound. One hundred and forty-one passengers came up on her, of whom twenty debarked here.

The saloon passengers landing here were: For Victoria—W. B. Fletcher, E. A. Hawley, R. Angus, E. P. Wood, C. Weber, T. E. O'Connor, For Vancouver—T. R. Arbuthnot, W. Nalmsmith, Donald Lamont, Miss M. McIntosh, Miss Knight and Mrs. Elsie Murray.

GERMAN COURT SCANDAL.

Emperor Seeks Information at Secret Session of Harden-Von Moltke Trial.

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Emperor William, who is following the evidence taken in the Harden-Von Moltke libel suit with the utmost attention, to-day sent to the court-house Lieutenant Proemel, Von Der Hoehe, of the Fusiliers, as a special representative in order to secure a full and impartial report of the proceedings.

The judges decided to permit the lieutenant to remain in court when the remainder of the public was excluded, and he was thus enabled to obtain the details of the trying ordeal which Prince Philipp Zu Eulenberg underwent during the secret session this afternoon, when he remained three hours on the witness stand.

Going to the exclusion of the press and the public from the session, and the close secrecy observed by all persons connected with the case, no statements on which reliance can be placed were obtainable regarding the testimony adduced.

KILLED BY TRAIN.

Kingsford, Dec. 20.—A lad named Hughes, aged 15 years, was struck by a Bay of Quebec railway train outward bound at Davis' tannery this morning and killed.

You Cannot Make a Mistake in Buying a Good Bottle of Perfume for a Xmas Gift

We have a larger stock than ever, including the best known Perfumers as Houbigant, Pinaud, Roger & Gallet, Piver, Rimmel and Seeley. It will pay you to call and see our stock.

Campbell's Prescription Store.

Cor. Fort & Douglas Streets

We are prompt. We are careful. Our prices are right.



A BARGAIN IN FUEL

\$6 Per Ton COKE \$6 Per Ton

Makes the cheapest, brightest and hottest fire you can have. Clean and economical. Unrivalled for the open grate, unequalled for the cook stove to mix with coal.

DELIVERED FREE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS FOR \$6.

ONLY \$5 IF YOU SEND FOR IT.

VICTORIA GAS COMPANY, LTD.

Corner Fort and Langley Streets

English pale ale 'Halls' per doz. \$1.25
Scotch beer 'Tennants' per doz. \$1.00

LEAVE YOUR ORDER EARLY FOR A NICE CHRISTMAS TURKEY.

Windsor Grocery Company,

OPPOSITE POST OFFICE

GOVERNMENT ST.

JUST RECEIVED

CARLOAD OF PIPE

Black Galvanized
4 to 4 inches 4 to 3 inches

HARDWARE MERCHANTS

WALTER S. FRASER & CO. LIMITED

WHARF STREET, VICTORIA

Xmas Novelties

BON-BONS AT ALL PRICES.

XMAS STOCKINGS, each 25c., 50c. and 75c.
PAPER BELLS FOR DECORATING, each 15c.
JAPANESE ORANGES, per box 75c.
LARGE NAVAL ORANGES, per doz. 30c.

FELL & COMPANY, LTD.

QUALITY GROCERS.

621 FORT STREET.

PHONE 24.



The
Whispered
Question

What Shall

we Give Grandma? Grandpa?

WHY, THAT'S EASILY ANSWERED. Give them some thing that they will be sure to appreciate—something to make them comfortable. What would be better than

A Pair of Slippers

We have a large stock of KID AND FELT SLIPPERS, and a great range of prices. Footwear of any description makes an acceptable gift. Secure your Slipper Certificates. They are sure to fit.

BAKER SHOE CO., Limited.

1109 GOVERNMENT ST.

D. K. CHUNGGRANES

Tel. 522.

608 BROUGHTON ST.

Near Government

SATURDAY BARGAIN

WILD GAME, POULTRY AND FISH.

Large assortment of AUSTRALIAN RABBITS, each 50c. and 60c.

IT'S CORRECT IF "CHRISTIE" HAS IT

Christmas Footery FOR YOUNG AND OLD



IN ALL THE NEW CREATIONS THAT MAN CAN DEVISE.

FANCY MOCCASINS AND SATIN BOOTEES for Babies, 25c. to 50c.
FANCY FELT AND KID SLIPPERS for Boys and Girls, 75c. to \$2.00.

COMFORTABLE FELT AND KID SLIPPERS for Ladies, 85c. to \$1.50.

EASY SLIPPERS for Men, in Fancy Kid and Colored Leathers. Neat patterns, \$1.00 to \$4.00.

G. D. CHRISTIE'S SHOE EMPORIUM

Cor. Government and Johnson Streets

Equimait Car Tickets Here.

IF "CHRISTIE" HAS IT, IT'S CORRECT

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

DRIARD.
A. Shores, Vancouver; T. R. Stockett, Nanaimo; H. E. Beasley, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. L. Abbe and children, Seattle; J. G. Billings, Sidney; W. J. Cardell, Calgary; J. J. Whalen, Vancouver; John F. McLean, Syracuse, N.Y.; F. H. Mobley, Jno. McLeod, Vancouver; Geo. S. Beck and two daughters, Thos. Cameron, Port Arthur; A. Caddon, Toronto; Geo. Dryone, Seattle.

KING EDWARD.
Jas. A. Compton, Vancouver; J. H. Irvine, Alert Bay; W. Ross, Albert Head; A. W. Walker, L. B. Brown, Berg M. Collins, P. P. Roberts, Medford, Eng.; L. Mauderville, Seattle; Mr. N. E. Bannister, Mrs. Bannister, Albert Head; S. Clemens, Moose Jaw; R. J. Skinner, Arthur Nelson, J. D. Buchanan, David Blair, Vancouver; E. W. Henry, Fredericton; Mrs. H. W. Shaw, Didsbury; Mrs. J. W. Burghon, Stella B. Lowry, Pongka; S. McClay, M. O. Harris, Vancouver; E. Stock, Duncan; D. L. T. Seavey, Port Townsend; E. F. Plummer, Port Townsend; A. Gray, K. Stewart, C. Fisher, Seattle; J. H. Sargent, Joliet; J. P. Calhoun, Wm. Harlow, Seattle; J. Gibbins, Vancouver.

DOMINION.
T. J. Anderson, D. Anderson, Duluth; Paul McDonald and wife, Spokane; Miss T. Bloomquist, White Horse; Mrs. J. E. Hanley, Seattle, Wash.; T. L. Deland, Nanaimo; C. Brackenridge, Cobble Hill; Mrs. C. D. Scott, Mrs. S. E. Abbey, H. C. Stricker and wife, Y. Van Horne, Seattle; A. Michelson, San Francisco; Ross Fenn, Seattle; A. W. Baillie, Roseland; J. D. Spiers, Vancouver; W. J. Woodhus, Cumberland; Jas. Carlin, Vancouver; Mrs. A. Evans, Mrs. A. Alkman, Canmore; A. P. Wilson, Port William; Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Anderson, Langley Priarie; D. Caldwell, A. Trage, Vancouver; Miss H. L. Roberts, New York; Miss E. Robert, Red Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Milligan, Seattle, Wash.

BALMORAL.
Harry Butcher, Mrs. Bucher, Dawson; D. H. B. Holmes, A. M. Young, Duncan.

QUEEN'S.
J. B. Sylvester, Bella Coola; Mrs. John Hannay, Chemainus; Major MacFarlane, Mill Bay; S. McKird, Vancouver; F. Sandergard, Nanaimo; Lee Anderson, Cobble Hill; C. Cain, Toronto; J. J. High, J. Gibbins, Vancouver; Harry Dawson, Moose Jaw; J. Ainsworth, London, Eng.; Louis L. Smith, Nova Scotia; D. Piercy, Fall River; H. Lipton, Shawanigan Lake; A. Lightheart, Roche Harbor; R. A. Wright, Sooke; B. Hazell, Wellington; Claud Hooper, Chemainus; Geo. Moore, Seattle.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.
New York, Dec. 20.—The pamphlet report of the Union Pacific railroad for the year ending June 30th last was made public to-day. The statement shows gross operation earnings of \$76,640,727, an increase of \$3,753,154, and total operating expenses of \$40,754,839, an increase of \$3,315,718. After the payment of charges including taxes and interest, sinking funds, rentals, etc., there remained \$34,885,888, an increase of \$2,135,944. After the payment of the dividends of 4 per cent on the preferred and 6 per cent on the common stock, there remained a surplus of \$3,879,063, an increase of \$3,067,000.

CASHIER ABSCONDS.

Was Adopted Son of Owner of Financial Institution.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Richard Nibel, adopted son and cashier of the private bank of August Kach & Co., had disappeared. The business of the bank halted to-day and Mr. Kach was paying off depositors with cheques drawn on his personal account. He has enough to pay every depositor in full.

SAWMILL FOR SALT SPRING

CONSTRUCTION WORK TO BEGIN AT ONCE

Attention Will be Devoted Largely to Turning Out Ties and Piles at First.

Salt Spring Island is to have a sawmill early next year. The promoters of the enterprise, C. R. Betts and C. T. Mescher, well known as loggers and mill men on Puget Sound, are now in Victoria registered at the Victoria hotel.

Through local parties Messrs. Betts and Mescher have acquired about three miles of timber limits on Salt Spring Island. Their areas are covered for the most part with timber suitable for ties and piles, and it is their purpose to give chief attention to the production of these articles. Arrangements are now in progress for the installation of a logging camp, in which they expect to employ from 25 to 40 men.

Work is to be commenced immediately in connection with the mill establishment. The plant is to be located within convenient reach of their timber limits, and will have a capacity of producing about 25,000 feet per day.

Mr. Betts informed a reporter this morning that his firm had already secured contracts for ties and piles which would keep the mill going for several years. They expect to commence operations in January next, or as early in the year as the establishment can be got ready for work. The mill will be fitted with the very latest machinery for producing ties, and this part of the plant is now on the way here from Minnesota.

REVISION COURT DID NO BUSINESS

Owing to a Technical Error Sitting Was Illegal and Consequently Adjourned.

The Court of Revision this morning adjourned without doing any business. It is necessary, according to the statute, that they shall meet from day to day until the business of the court is concluded, so they will meet each morning until next Thursday, when the real business will commence. The reason for the court not proceeding with business was the fact that the meeting of the court had not been advertised in the regular way, the notice having been inserted in the local newspapers for three days only, instead of five.

Frank Higgins strongly objected to the adjournment, as he wished the matter in which he was interested as counsel adjudicated so that he could appeal to a higher court. He stated that there were about 400 names of women to which he took objection, and it would take some time to go through this list.

The Mayor stated that he had been advised by the city barrister that the court could not legally sit until after the five days had elapsed.

Mr. Higgins objected to the city barrister being quoted, as he had no standing before the court, which was quite distinct from the city council.

The court, however, decided to lay the application over.

The Court of Revision is presided over by the Mayor, and the other members are Ald. Hall and Fullerton.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

Victoria, B. C., December 21st, 1907.

Weather Reports.
Victoria—Barometer, 29.82; temperature 47; minimum 42; wind W., velocity 16; rain or snow, .34; weather, cloudy.

New Westminster—Barometer, 29.84; temperature 36; minimum 34; wind S., velocity 14; rain or snow, 1.24; weather, cloudy.

Nanaimo—Wind, calm; weather, clear. Kamloops—Barometer, 29.64; temperature 38; minimum 22; wind E., velocity 10; weather, cloudy.

Barkerville—Barometer, 29.62; temperature 28; minimum 23; wind S. W., velocity 4; rain or snow, .49; weather, snow.

Portland, Ore.—Barometer, 29; temperature 50; minimum 46; wind S. W., velocity 23; rain or snow, .26; weather, rain.

Tacoma—Barometer, 29.96; temperature 46; minimum 42; wind E., velocity 14; rain or snow, .56; weather, rain.

San Francisco—Barometer, 29.56; temperature 46; minimum 40; wind E., velocity 8; weather, cloudy.

Edmonton—Barometer, 29.38; temperature 23; minimum 22; wind S., velocity 4; weather, cloudy.

Weather Synopsis.
A disturbance of considerable energy has crossed the province and is now central in Alberta. A strong southeasterly gale prevailed last night at the mouth of the Columbia river, with a wind velocity of 44 miles. The barometer is high over the north Pacific states. Heavy rain has fallen from the lower mainland to Oregon and Washington, and 4 inches of snow has fallen at Barkerville. East of the Rockies this cold weather is general.

Forecast.
For 24 hours ending 5 p.m. Sunday: Victoria and Vicinity—Westerly winds, partly cloudy and colder.

Lower Mainland—Southerly winds, partly cloudy and colder.

TORONTO SAVINGS COMPANY.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—A special meeting of the shareholders of the Acme Loan & Savings Co. has been called for Jan. 24th to ratify an agreement made by the directors for the sale of the company's assets to the Standard Loan Company.

SOO TRAIN DERAILLED.

North Bay, Ont., Dec. 20.—Soo train No. 8 was derailed west of here last night, the cause being a broken axle. No one was injured.

The Favorite Gift Store

Shop now. The longer you delay, the less chance you have of getting the choicest things. We mention gifts appropriate for everyone, and with the selection as varied and attractive as it is at this store, Christmas shopping should be a pleasure. Our window display will offer suggestions from now on until Christmas Eve.

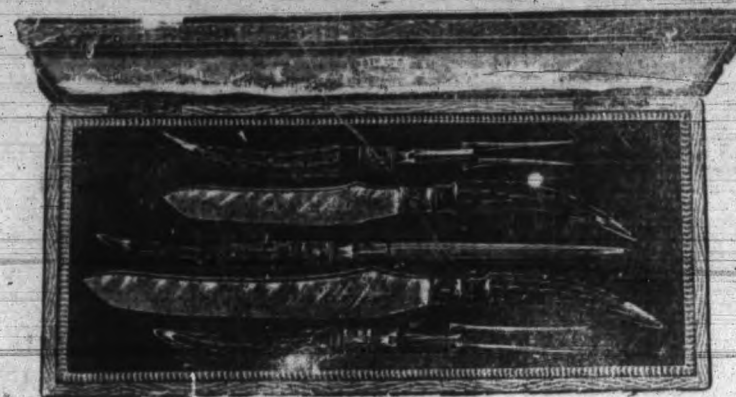


Chafing Dishes

A SEASONABLE SUGGESTION

A CHAFING DISH makes a right sensible gift, as there are innumerable appetizing morsels that can be prepared almost instantly with it. Prices \$7.50 to \$9.00

Carving Sets



3-Piece SETS \$1.50 to \$3.00
3-Piece SETS, in cases, \$2.50 to \$16.00
5-Piece SETS, including Game Set, in handsome cases \$5.00 to \$11.00
SILVER FISH SERVERS in handsome cases \$4.00 to \$14.00

We have many Beautiful OAK CABINETS, containing Fish Sets, Dessert Sets, prices ranging from \$12.50 to \$35.00
Also OAK CABINETS, containing Knives and Forks, complete with Carvers, prices ranging from \$18.00 to \$50.00

Tools for the Boy

We have a very large stock of the best in Carpenters' Tools, any of which would be appreciated by the boy attending Training School.



Pocket Knives and Scissors



We have a splendid assortment of Pocket Knives and Scissors of every standard make, in all sizes and for every purpose.

Gifts for a Man



MANICURE SETS \$1.75 to \$12.00
SAFETY RAZORS \$1.25 to \$5.00
RAZORS \$1.00 to \$3.50
SHAVING BRUSHES 25c. to \$1.50
RAZOR STROPS .50c. to \$4.00
SHAVING MUGS \$1.75 to \$2.50



A Few Other Helpful Suggestions

Five o'Clock Tea Kettles, Needlework Cases, Companion Sets, Crumb Trays and Brushes, Fancy Tea and Coffee Pots, Hand-carved Bread Boards, Oak and Nickel Plated Trays.

SPIRIT LAMPS.

Nickel-Plated Baking Dishes, Carpet Sweepers.

Community Silver

Helps to decide holiday purchases. No hand-somer, more serviceable, or more appreciated gift could be made. Beautiful as long as it lasts—and it lasts a lifetime. See it and decide for yourself.

We have community Silver Knives, in sets, Spoons and Forks, in sets, Nut Crackers and Picks, in sets, Fruit Knives, in sets, Coffee Spoons, in sets, Orange Spoons, in sets, Berry Spoons, Soup Ladles, Butter Knives, Pickle Forks, Pie Servers, Cake Knives, Sugar Shells, etc.



REMEMBER, we are giving away a "Faultless Range" New Year's Eve. Every dollar's purchase entitles you to a ticket.

STORE OPEN EVERY EVENING.

Ogilvie Hardware, Ltd.

GOVERNMENT ST.

THE QUALITY STORE.

PHONE 1120.

The Daily Times

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THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

If there were not innumerable reminders in the magazines and other periodicals which have fallen into the habit of anticipating events that we are in the midst of the glad Christmas season, Victoria would be aware of the fact by the air and demeanor of the crowds which congregate in the streets and in the shops. Yes; Santa Claus is preparing for his annual tour of that not inconsiderable portion of the world which cherishes his memory even in the face of a sceptical age. We believe it is recorded that when a sublime event occurred at Bethlehem of Judea, the wise men of the East came and bowed before the little child and ministered unto him. So that Christmas is a children's festival. It was not recognized as such for centuries after the occurrence from which it derives its significance. We are told that but for the influence of the writings of one of England's greatest story-tellers, Charles Dickens, the modern form which Yuletide celebrations take would never have been known. Certainly never were such jolly Christmas gatherings known as those at which Jovial old Mr. Wardell presided and at which Mr. Pickwick and his uniquely original body-servant, Sam Weller, assisted. If Dickens was instrumental in inspiring Christmas with a new and very agreeable spirit, the world—not only the juvenile world, but the world mature as well—owes him a considerable debt of gratitude. The spirit of Christmas cannot abide where there is meanness or selfishness. The Christmas season is essentially one of heartiness, generosity and goodwill. Whatever of grossness in eating and drinking may have been characteristic of the season as Dickens portrayed it in his masterly sketches has been largely eliminated, and only the purifying and elevating features remain.

If there is one country in the world in which the genuine spirit of Christmas ought to have free course during the festive season, that country is Canada. Here there is no grim skeleton of poverty to intrude itself upon the annual reunion or at the festival in whatever form it may take. The shadow of distress which hovers over the neighboring country has not taken form—at least not in this portion of the Dominion. There is peace within our borders and plenty within the households of the people. The prospects for the future were never brighter. Therefore joy should be unconfined and goodwill radiate from every countenance.

WORK FOR A TRUE IMPERIALIST.

English newspapers intimate that there is a prospect of Mr. Chamberlain, the militant apostle of the Empire, returning to the political fighting line. It is said the member for Birmingham has all but recovered his health and is disposed to again take his place in Parliament and stir the members out of their constitutional lethargy by delivering some of his fighting speeches. We fear there cannot be any very substantial foundation for this hope. Mr. Chamberlain is an old man even for a British statesman. He can hardly be expected to be restored to the vigor of body and of mind for which he was noted a few years ago. But he would be useful in the House of Commons at the present time. The Imperial government seems disposed to attempt to shelve the scheme for a line of steamships of the first class connecting Great Britain, Canada and Australia, although its representatives in the last Imperial conference signified their acquiescence in the resolution of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. What reasonable excuse there can be for such indifference in view of the enormous subsidy given the Cunard line for the purpose of maintaining means of swift communication with the United States passes comprehension. Then Australia threatens that unless something is done to provide for the carriage of mails and passengers over an Imperial route, she will subsidize a line giving the colony connection with San Francisco. That will mean the virtual establishment of an all-red line between Great Britain and Australia through the United States. How any government could justify such a thing to a sane Parliament must pass mere colonial comprehension. It certainly cannot be considered as a means towards the promotion of Imperial solidarity. The government is in dire need of an advocate endowed with both imagination and enthusiasm to stir it up and inspire it with the colonial feeling which it seems to regard with something closely approaching contempt.

Discussing the possibility of the re-appearance of Mr. Chamberlain in Parliament an English newspaper says: "Mr. Chamberlain's keenest political opponents will unite in hoping that the aged statesman may, indeed, find it possible to return to the fighting line next session; this is a figure greatly missed in the House of Commons. Yet we are not sure that the great

career would be enhanced by an emergence which would impose an immense strain on health and strength, without perhaps altering the position of parties. If the prolonged rest has entirely restored the patient to his former vigor, then surely he will receive a welcome equally cordial from friend and foe. But the whirlpool of politics cannot wait upon the necessities of imperfect health, and it would be lamentable if a splendid reputation for alert dialectics and courageous debate—now undimmed—were to be risked by the desire to fan the flames of Tariff Reform for a few months longer. Than Mr. Chamberlain no man has better earned that affectionate regard which is invariably extended by all parties to statesmen who enjoy the leisure that comes from a great day's work—valiantly accomplished amidst the strife of tongues. That reward may be more precious than the fascination of another bout in the always dusty and disappointing arena."

EASTERN PROBLEMS.

Persia, like Russia, has been granted a constitution. The Persians, like the Russians, do not appear to know exactly what to do with such an unexpected luxury as a constitution now they have got it. They are threatening a revolution in order that the provisions of their constitution may be made effective. The Shah, like the Czar, appears to have repented of his decision to give his people a word or two to say about the government of their country. It must be explained for the benefit of his sublime majesty the present Shah, however, that he was not consulted about the extension of the constitutional principles of government to Persia. That decision was reached by his predecessor when in extremis. Probably the late Shah was not in a condition of mind to correctly estimate the outcome of his suddenly assumed generosity or liberality. The present ruler of the Persians evidently desires to go back to the old time-honored or dishonored customs of his royal forbears. Perhaps he thinks his people should not be entrusted with any of the responsibilities of government, that a despotism, benevolent or otherwise, is better for them under present circumstances and, until, like the Russians, they can be educated up to their job. That is the excuse the Czar makes for his dissatisfaction with the various Dumas which have been summoned to assist him in the perplexing task of governing a people of very embarrassing ideas respecting their rights and their liberties. We notice that his Majesty of Russia has threatened his third Duma with dissolution unless it accepts his ideas with respect to expenditures on the navy. Sarcastic people may say that the old navy did not behave itself so valiantly that any just reason can be given for the imposition of special taxation for the creation of a new one. But the advocates of a progressive naval policy have plenty of answers to such an impertinent observation as that. The members of the third Duma ought to be mighty well pleased if nothing worse happens to them than dissolution. Fragments of former Dumas have been sentenced by an irresponsible judiciary to exile and hard labor in the mines of Siberia, where the climate is just a trifle harder than that of Vancouver Island. We fear these impossible people of the East are a stiff-necked generation. They have never accustomed themselves to constitutional liberties. As it was with them in the beginning, so it is to-day. The despots who have been ordained by Providence, or some other power, to rule over them, evidently believe they are temperamentally unfitted for self-government. Perhaps this condemnation might not be justified if they were given a fair chance. The time when they will be given such an opportunity seems to be very remote, judging by the disposition of the Shah and the Czar. What about India and Egypt? That is another story.

KRIS KRINGLE.

Hail! Kris Kringle!
The good Kris Kringle!
Who rides where the white snow drifts,
With sleigh bells that jingle,
Through forest and dingle,
Aladen with many gifts,
To give to the world of mirth and cheer,
And bless the flight of the passing year.

Hail! Kris Kringle!
The good Kris Kringle!
Who comes from his home afar,
The while our hearts tingle
Among us to mingle,
And whisper of things that are:
Of things that are and shall ever be,
Because of a Child's nativity.

Blanche E. Holt Murlson.
December 21st, 1907.

BOYS' PRANKS.

Seattle Lad Now in Custody For Running Away and Carrying Gun.
Two boys, William McPadden and William McMurray were yesterday taken in charge by the provincial police. It seems that they ran away from Salt Spring, taking a boat in which to cross the strait. They also brought away two guns, which, it is alleged, were not paid for by them. McMurray is a Seattle boy, and he is supposed to be the leader of the pair. He is being held by the provincial police, while the other lad has been taken back to the island by his father, who followed him to the city. The police have not yet decided what to do with the boy. His mother lives in Seattle, and he has relatives in this city. He is about 15 years of age, and when arrested was found to have a revolver in his pocket.

CITIZENS' LEAGUE
MET CANDIDATES

Mayor Morley and Ald. Hall Addressed That Body Last Evening on Civic Matters.

A meeting of the Citizens' League was held last evening in the Y. M. C. A. rooms with Rev. Le Roy Dakin presiding. There were present beside the members of the organization, Mayor Morley and Ald. Hall, who had been asked to address the meeting on the moral question, with the object in view of arriving at a conclusion as to the members should vote at the coming election. After hearing both candidates it was decided to adjourn until Jan. 15th when another meeting will be held and the two candidates asked to appear.

Mayor Morley spoke first last evening and avowed himself as a friend of all moral movements. He intimated that a house opened on Herald street which has recently been fitted up, was being watched by the police with the object in view of securing a conviction against it of being a disorderly house.

The Mayor said he had always been in favor of reform and instanced the formation of the Voters' League as evidence of this. When he was elected mayor he started out to make Victoria not only a progressive but a clean city. He said he had always stood by principle in spite of all the pressure that might have been brought against him.

His Worship offered to leave the field to Ald. Hall if the advocates of reform were satisfied with Ald. Hall. If, however, the advocates of reform did not feel satisfied with Ald. Hall he would run.

His Worship suggested that the solution of the administration of the liquor question in the city lay in the turning of it over to the city. He was opposed to the appointment of the commissioners by the provincial government as commissioners were appointed who were hand in glove with the liquor interests. He favored giving the people of the city the fullest opportunity to deal with the liquor traffic. He therefore favored local option he said in reply to a question.

He took exception to Ald. Hall's course in the contest for the city. Ald. Hall followed by going into his record also. He had been in British Columbia thirty-two years and was satisfied that his record during that time was sufficient to show that he stood always for moral reform. In 1874 he took the pledge of the Good Templars and had been total abstinent ever since. He had always taken an active interest in the cause of temperance and in 1878 had given six weeks of his time in the interests of the temperance side in the plebiscite campaign. He had always stood by his principles and in the eleven years he had served the city as school trustee and alderman he had tried to do his duty and could challenge anyone to show where he had not worked in the interests of moral reform. He had stood aside for two years from contesting the Mayor's seat in order to prevent a three-cornered contest. He did not intend to stand aside this year.

Ald. Hall then gave some attention to Mayor Morley's record and stated that two years ago His Worship had lobbied against a local option bill which J. N. Evans, the member for Cowichan, had introduced.

Interrupted by Mayor Morley, Ald. Hall said he had a letter from Mr. Evans in which it was stated that Mayor Morley had asked him to withdraw the local option clause.

Ald. Hall explained his position on the proposal to prohibit the sale of opium. He pointed out that the proposed by-law had clashed with Dominion legislation and was beyond the powers of the city. He was prepared to support every measure which was for the moral uplifting of the city.

Following Ald. Hall the discussion between the two candidates became general and a number of subjects were dealt with.

Mayor Morley admitted that he sometimes took a glass of ale or wine, but his stand on the temperance question was endorsed by the Good Templars, to which Ald. Hall belonged.

Ald. Hall took exception to the statement of Mayor Morley, who produced the letter on which he based his endorsement. It proved to be from the Royal Templars, to which Ald. Hall does not belong.

His Worship denied all knowledge of opposition to the local option bill of Mr. Evans. Asked if he had not gone to the legislature and pressed for legislation to give the rights to sell liquor on the exhibition grounds, His Worship said he had done so, acting for the Agricultural society.

His Worship would only give Ald. Hall credit for one thing—that he was the Mayor, and even in that case the Mayor said he had arranged everything up to the stage where Ald. Hall took it up.

Ald. Hall said that he was on record on the Sooko survey question long before the Mayor entered the council. He had voted in favor of all moral reform measures introduced. It was finally decided to postpone any action until after January 15th, when a special meeting will be held. The two candidates were thanked for attending. President Dakin tendered his resignation, as he was leaving the city shortly.

SERGEANTS IN DEBATE.
Non-Coms. of the Fifth Regiment Held First of a Series of Meetings.

At the drill hall last evening the sergeants' mess of the Fifth Regiment held their first debate. This is to be a feature of the winter months, and last evening gave promise of an excellent series.

The debate last night was on the subject of whether the drill hall was most suitable place in the city in which to hold athletic events.

Capt. Major Caven presided, and the subject was debated in all its many aspects.

On the conclusion of the discussion it was decided that the drill hall was the best place for sports.

Shipping

WEST COAST
SHIPPING REPORT

Carmanah, Dec. 21, (9 a. m.)—Calm, cloudy, smooth, slight south-west swell. No shipping.
Cape Beale, Dec. 21, (9 a. m.)—Light easterly wind, sea moderating. No shipping.
Carmanah, Dec. 21, (1 p. m.)—Light easterly wind, clear, light swell. No shipping.
Cape Beale, Dec. 21, (1 p. m.)—Heavy swell. No shipping.

MORNING STAR IS MYSTERY.

There was an arrival in Seattle which attracted the attention of the waterfront only through the fact that the vessel was reported by those who boarded her to be one of the dirtiest "white man's craft" that ever dropped an anchor in this harbor, says today's Seattle Times.

It was the little steamship Morning Star, a craft slightly larger than the well known passenger packet Bellingham, thought built much along the same lines.

Old timers along the coast will be surprised to learn that the craft which came here under steam for inspection yesterday, bound for Seattle from San Francisco, is none other than the pioneer missionary schooner Morning Star which for many years was operated under the direction of a missionary association of New York City, operating out of Honolulu among the South Sea Islands.

The vessel was operated at a loss for some years, and was finally turned over to a philanthropist who had advanced considerable money toward her work. He had her brought from Honolulu to San Francisco, having previously had her converted into a steam vessel. The missionary work was abandoned because of excessive cost.

There the former gospel ship remained laid up in Oakland Creek until, incidentally, her owner mentioned his possession to James A. Moore of Seattle, who made possible the resumption of operations at the Honolulu smelter plant across the bay. The philanthropist assured Moore that he owned the vessel in fee simple, and according to the story, offered to make the promoter a present of the craft if he would accept her.

Moore appreciating the advertising advantages that lay in the history of the old vessel, promptly accepted and recently a crew was engaged to bring her North.

No one here seems to know what Moore intends doing with the former floating gospel ship, and he declines to say, but persons familiar with his career realize that he did not accept the questionable present and agree to foot the expense bills involved in bringing her North without some good object in view.

THE OVERDUE LIST.

The withdrawal of the long overdue American ship Arthur Sewall and the Adolph Abrieg from the overdue list as unseizable, were the most important changes during the past week.

The list to date is as follows:
French barque Bougainville, 183 days, Swansea for San Francisco, 1 per cent.
French barque General Falderherbe, 175 days, Eureka for United Kingdom, 5 per cent.
British barque Brunel, 144 days, Pisagua for United Kingdom, 5 per cent.
German barque Anna, 145 days, Antofagasta for United Kingdom, 5 per cent.

British ship Armada, 143 days, Antofagasta for United Kingdom. Reinsurance 5 per cent.
British ship Alacrita, 138 days, Delagoa Bay for Hongkong. Reinsurance 30 per cent.

Italian ship Pelicleria, 138 days, Newcastle, N. S. W., for Antofagasta, 30 per cent.
British ship Walden Abbey, 183 days, Newcastle for Portland, Ore., 7 per cent.

ALASKAN STILL PAST.

Up to the present no success has attended the efforts made by the tug Escort No. 3 to float the stranded steamship Alaskan, which is hard and fast at Cape Mudge.

It is estimated that the loss on cargo will be between \$10,000 and \$15,000, with \$5,000 insurance. The Escort has reported that the hull of the steamship is very badly damaged. If the Alaskan can be pulled into deep water she will be beached and temporary repairs made to enable her to be towed to Puget Sound for permanent repairs.

LARGE CARGO FOR OANFA.

Flour, cotton, salmon and lumber will form a large portion of the full cargo which will be taken from the Sound, when the Blue Funnel liner Dana's departs from Tacoma for the Orient and Liverpool on Christmas morning.

She will have over 9,000 bales of cotton, 95,000 sacks of flour, 600,000 feet of lumber and a great quantity of fish. The lumber is being shipped to Hamburg, Liverpool and Glasgow.

N. Y. K. CHARTER RENEWED.

United States Consul General Miller of Yokohama reports that the charter of the Nippon Yusen (Japan Mail Steamship Company), which granted state aid to its five principal lines in Far Eastern waters, has been renewed from the beginning of October for the period ending March 31st, 1912.

UNITED STATES LIFE-SAVING.

In the zone of operations of the life-saving service throughout the United States in the last fiscal year, 325 disasters occurred, involving 347 documented vessels and 491 undocumented craft. The annual report of General Superintendent S. I. Kimball, made public yesterday, says that 55 of the endangered vessels were totally lost. The value of property imperilled was \$3,822,583—a much smaller amount than in the year before. The value of property saved was \$7,432,285, the loss being \$1,559,600.

as against \$2,775,040 in the fiscal year 1906.
Aboard the vessels meeting disaster there were 5,112 persons, of whom 45 were lost. The number of persons secured at life-saving stations was 507.

MARINE NOTES.

The steamship Otter arrived in port this morning from Ladysmith with coal for the C. P. R. docks.

The Holt liner Titan arrived at Shanghai previous to the 19th, homeward bound from Victoria for Liverpool.

Sixty whales have been taken to date at the Page's lagoon whaling station by the Pacific Whaling Company's steamers Orion and St. Lawrence.

The tug William Tell left this morning for Skidegate to replace the damaged buoy on the bar.

The transportation of the Dominion government motor lifeboat for Bandford Creek station is evidently perplexing the railway officials on the American side. Up to this morning the boat had not arrived at New Westminster.

The steamship President sails tonight from the outer wharf for San Francisco.

New York, Dec. 20.—The Cunarder Mauretania arrived from Liverpool, the President Grand from Hamburg and the Helios from Shields.

PREPAREDNESS
OF RUSSIAINTERESTING OUTCOME
OF STOESEL TRIAL

Count Witte Accuses General Kuropatkin of Misleading Government in Late War

St. Petersburg, Dec. 20.—Irritated at the testimony given at the trial of Gen. Stoesel by Gen. Kuropatkin yesterday Count Witte addressed a letter to the court begging an opportunity to appear on the witness stand. Gen. Kuropatkin's testimony was to the effect that before the war with Japan he had recommended the abandonment of Port Arthur and the restoration of the Kwang Tung peninsula to the Chinese, who were to pay \$125,000,000 for it, and that he considered that the opening of Port Dalny destroyed the strategic importance of Port Arthur.

The court having refused him an opportunity to refute on the witness stand General Kuropatkin's testimony, Count Witte has broken his long silence in a letter to the Novos Vremya. It is an interesting disclosure of excerpts from secret documents which throw light on the inner councils before the war, and seeks to prove that Kuropatkin was guilty of misleading the whole government by an over-estimate of Russia's preparedness for war.

In July, 1903, according to Count Witte, after a tour of inspection in the Far East, General Kuropatkin in a written report to the Emperor said: "Two years ago we thought ourselves ready to defend the Amur region and North Manchuria. To-day we cannot only do that, but can be perfectly confident of the fate of Port Arthur."

Count Witte narrates that the state of Port Dalny and the idea of creating a commercial port there were suggestions of Kuropatkin himself as a means for restricting Port Arthur to military uses, and at the same time to carry out the promise to open any acquired Chinese port to the trade of all nations.

Count Witte multiplies instances of discrepancy in Kuropatkin's official acts and his evidence in the Stoesel case. He also accuses him of not having provided sufficient siege guns at Port Arthur.

The controversy promises sensational developments.

WAS CONSUL AT QUEBEC.

Quebec, Dec. 20.—Felix Carbray, a prominent citizen and consul for Portugal, died this evening. He at one time represented Quebec in the Legislature. He was a harbor commissioner. Three sons and three daughters survive him.

The first game of the Pacific Northwest International Y. M. C. A. basketball league will be played here Christmas night when the Vancouver Senators play the local Y. M. C. A. There are eight teams in the circuit, six American and two Canadian. Vancouver and Victoria have always been closely matched and the first game promises great excitement. The game will be played in the Drill hall, by permission of Colonel Hall, and will be preceded by a game between the Regiment and Intermediate Y. M. C. A. teams. The band will enliven the proceedings. This promises to be an interesting holiday feature.

WRECK INQUIRY OPENS.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 20.—The inquiry into the stranding of the C. P. R. steamship Mount Temple, off Bridgewater, opened here this morning before Judge Wallace. Captain Boothby, First Officer Davidson, Third Officer Russell, and two men who were on look-out duty were examined, and their evidence confirms the theory that the vessel was caught in an abnormal current.

New York, Dec. 21.—The White Star liner Baltic arrived from Liverpool this morning.

CHILDREN ARE
IN THE LOCK-UPTHE FATHER REFUSES
TO PART WITH THEMTraveller From Australia Under
Arrest Is Held Pending Word
From Sydney

There are two unusual guests in the city lockup. Antonio Loachlavio, who is being held pending the arrival of further information from Australia, is unable to provide the two thousand dollars' bail required by the magistrates, or to find two sureties who are willing to pledge themselves to that amount. As his two little children are dependent upon him, and they refuse to be parted, there is nothing else to be done except to keep them there. They are upstairs in the women's department of the lockup, and are quite happy with their father. The chief has offered to place them in the convent at the expense of the city or in any other suitable institution. The offers have been refused, and the prison is temporarily a nursery.

The prisoner claims that his wife deserted him instead of his deserting her, and he further claims that he left her half of his money. According to the Australian law a man is punishable to the extent of three years hard labor for deserting his wife for one month without leaving her some means of support. As this is the offence with which he is at present charged, the custody of the children does not enter into the affair at all.

In court yesterday afternoon Mr. Alkman asked that the bail be put low enough to allow the man to put up the money. He had in his possession a little over \$600. The magistrate could not see it in that light, but information may arrive at any time which will alter the complexion of the case. In the meantime a man has been granted for a week.

RUMORED FLEET
FOR ESQUIMAULTAssertion of London Paper Is
Denied by the British
Admiralty.

London, Dec. 21.—According to the Standard to-day the admiralty has decided to establish next May a Pacific and a North Atlantic squadron. The base of the former will probably be Esquimault.

London, Dec. 21.—The Associated Press is in a position to state on the authority of the British admiralty that there is no truth in the assertion published in the Standard to-day that the admiralty has decided to establish next May a Pacific and North Atlantic squadron, the base of which probably would be for the former at Esquimault.

—George Henry Little, of Manchester, Eng., will speak at the Y. M. C. A. men's meeting to-morrow on "A Christmas Message to Men." Mr. Little has lately arrived from England to reside in Victoria. He has been a useful man in Christian work in his old home and comes with a rich, varied experience to lend an interest in all good work in Victoria. Gardener Findlay will sing "Star of Bethlehem." Washington convention music will be used in the service and an interesting, helpful time is promised. The Men's Bible class and social tea will be held at the close.

—Attention of the public is drawn to the fact that on Christmas day the drugists of the city will close at 1 o'clock and will not re-open that day. In case of urgent necessity the drugists may be reached at their homes by phone.

DIED.

McMILAN—On the 20th inst., at the family residence, "Comorant" street, Louise McMILAN, aged 84 years, a native of Cornwall, Eng.

The funeral will take place on Sunday at 1:45 p.m. from the residence and 2 o'clock from the Metropolitan Methodist church, Pandora avenue. Friends please accept this intimation.

MODERN MIRACLES

Of Healing By

EDW. OLNEY

Marvellous effects

produced in the minds

and bodies of the sick

and suffering by the

almost supernatural

power that he possesses.

A remarkable case of healing is that of Mrs. R. W. Smalley, who for the past six years has been tortured with ulcers of the stomach and kidney and liver trouble.

She came to Mr. Olney as the last hope, and was healed. Since then she has been able to do her own work and able to eat anything she wished. Such cures are being effected daily in the healer's office in the VERNON BLOCK, corner Douglas and View streets. Consultation Free.

14 K. Cuff Links
Our \$5 Pair
of Solid 14 K Gold Cuff Links makes a good practical Christmas gift for a man. They are substantially made and reinforced in the places where the ordinary link gives out.

THE J. M. WHITNEY CO.
JEWELLERS
1005 GOVERNMENT ST.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Under the new system adopted last session, the total amount in educational grants for 1907 to be distributed among the rural sections in \$358,178, compared with \$123,750 in 1906. The last instalments have just been paid over. New Ontario grants, as compared with \$47,910 in 1904.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED—Two experienced waitresses. Apply Dominion Hotel.

FOR SALE—Fine holly, 200 lb. G. W. Woollett, 642 Port street.

FOR SALE—Fine office furniture and show cases. Apply 1191, Yates street.

MISS E. H. JONES has removed her private nursing home from 65 Bay street to 721 Vancouver street.

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished house, James Bay, all modern conveniences. Inquire Hinkson, Siddall & Son, 8 New Grand Avenue, Building, Government St.

AGENTS—You can make big money and be independent by handling one of my lines. Blackford, the agency man, Toronto, Ont.

FOR RENT—Well furnished, comfortable rooms, one suitable for two or three gentlemen; reasonable, close in. 749 Piquard street, cor. Blanche.

AGREEMENTS of sale purchased. If you have any agreements of sale which you wish to sell, we will buy them for cash. McConnell & Taylor, cor. Govt. and Port streets, upstairs.

BOOKKEEPERS—13 safeguard system, making expert accounts of bookkeepers, taught by key; assures correct trial balances. Checking & Accounting Co., 973 Columbus Avenue, N. Y.

WANTED—A respectable man with a permanent income of over \$100 per month, wants a respectable woman for a wife, no objection to a widow with a small family. All applications will be received in confidence. Apply giving full name and address, to Box 590, Times office.

\$300 TO \$10,000 YEARLY, easily made in real estate business, no capital required, we will teach you the business by mail, appoint you special representative of leading real estate company. List with you ready saleable properties, co-operate with and assist you to permanent success. Call or write for free 62-page book. The Cross Company, 75 Resper Block, Chicago.

IDENTIFICATION credentials enclosed in leather pocketbook or card case, identification key \$5; assures correct insurance, \$2,000 death benefit, \$15.00 weekly indemnity, sickness \$15.00 weekly indemnity, \$100.00 emergency relief benefit. Total cost, \$5.00 per year. For particulars and sample policy sent on application to Identification Company of America, 1414 Bloor Street, Government street, Victoria, B. C. Agents wanted.

FOR SALE—Choice new cottage, nice location, close to car line; reception hall, parlor with beautiful mantle and tile fireplace, sliding doors, dining room, kitchen, enamel sink, hot and cold water and boiler, large pantry with shelves and bins, large bath room with enamel bath, wash basin and best water arrangements, 2 large bedrooms with extra large closets, 7-foot basement under whole house, large attic and lot 5x125. This is a beautiful home and a snap at \$3,500. Terms, only \$500 cash. McConnell & Taylor.

TRANSLATED NOVELS.

(Some illustrated). Actresses' Photos; catalogue with sample from 1s. (letter postage 2d).

A. DE SAILLE,
20, Rue de la Michodiere, Paris.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Hermann Samuel Blanchard desire to thank the many friends for their kind expressions of sympathy and flowers in their late bereavement.

DIED.

McMILAN—On the 20th inst., at the family residence, "Comorant" street, Louise McMILAN, aged 84 years, a native of Cornwall, Eng.

The funeral will take place on Sunday at 1:45 p.m. from the residence and 2 o'clock from the Metropolitan Methodist church, Pandora avenue. Friends please accept this intimation.



OUR ASSORTMENT of Ladies' Handbags was never more complete. We have them in very attractive colors, in genuine Horn Back Alligator, Ice Bear, Pebbled Goat, etc. A Christmas gift appreciated by any lady. Ask us to show them to you.

CYRUS H. BOWES
CHEMIST.
GOVERNMENT ST.
Near Yates St.

To Let
STORE

20 x 60

ON FORT ST. NEAR DOUGLAS

APPLY

P. R. BROWN, LTD.

REAL ESTATE, FINANCIAL & INSURANCE AGENTS.
30 BROAD STREET, Phone 1076

Mumm's Champagne for the Christmas Toast.

For, of course, on this grand festival you want to give your friends the very best.

Yourselves—"Will you drink!"

Santa Claus—"Why, certainly!"

Yourselves—"What!"

Santa Claus—"MUMM'S the word, whether I come down the chimney or in at the window."

G. H. Mumm & Co.'s "Extra Dry" and "Selected Brut" is on the wine lists of every first-class club, hotel, bar and restaurant. If your dealer cannot supply you for home use this Christmas, telephone

PITHER & LEISER

SOLE AGENTS

Direct Importers,
Corner Fort and Wharf Streets.

THE SYSTEM BUILDING TONIC
BEEF, IRON AND WINE
\$1.00 a Bottle
Nothing Can Equal It When Got at
B. C. DRUG STORE
J. TEAGUE,
Old No. 77 Johnson St. New No. 64
Phone 334



DRESSED DOLLS

I have a choice assortment of DRESSED DOLLS just arrived, from \$5.00 to \$60.00. CLOTH DOLLS, indestructible, and with pretty faces. MANY OTHERS too numerous to mention in time, but they are worth while to look at before
YOU MAKE YOUR SELECTION.

W. WILBY, 1319
Douglas St.

Twenty per cent discount at W. H. Pennock's, 624 Yates street. He is going out of business. Buy your Xmas presents here and save money.

Small But Attractive

ANY ONE LOOKING FOR
SMALL FRUIT RANCH

CLOSE TO CITY
should call and get full particulars of the following from us:

No. 1-2-4 ACRES AT LAND,
all cleared and cultivated, with
good four-roomed house, stable
and other outbuildings, over 100
bearing fruit trees; good water.
PRICE FOR CASH ONLY
\$2,500.00

No. 2-1-1 ACRES AT LAND,
all cleared and cultivated, good
four-roomed house, stable and
outbuildings, about 60 trees in
bearing; good water.
PRICE FOR CASH ONLY
\$2,300.00

These are Jim Dandy BARGAINS, and the prices are hard times ones.

We sell Insurance—Fire, Life
and Accident. First-class companies, Attractive Plans.

L. U. CONYERS & CO.
Phone 1382. 18 View St.
MONEY TO LOAN.

YULETIDE
Deaville, Sons & Co.
HILLSIDE AVE. AND FIRST ST.
XMAS FRUITS, fresh and dried;
MINCE MEAT, CHOCOLATES,
CANDIES, NUTS, etc., all
ready!!! Phone 334.

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

—Fancy wings and flowers from Paris at The Elite, Fort street.

—Try the Merchants' Lunch at the Poodle Dog, from 12 to 2 o'clock, 25c.

—Don't forget the 20 per cent discount off all watches at Blyth's, the jeweler, of Fort street.

—A superb collection of fancy linens for Christmas presents at astoundingly low prices. Just received a delayed shipment of pillow cases, tray cloths, bureau and sideboard covers, table centre pieces and doilies, which have been marked at special prices to ensure a speedy clearance. Robinson's Cash Store, 86 Yates street.

—The two men charged with breaching cargo on the Princess May a month ago, will come up before Judge Lammman on Monday for speedy trial.

—The regular Saturday night dance will be held in the A. O. U. W. hall tonight. Any person wishing to enter for the silver medal prize waits on December 28th will please send their name to the management.

—A pair of gold mounted spectacles or eyeglasses make an acceptable Xmas present. Call and see what A. P. Blyth, the optician and jeweler, of Fort street, is offering in this line. The sight can be tested after Xmas.

—The honorary treasurer of the Royal Jubilee hospital acknowledges the following subscriptions from A. W. Bridgman for the seats of the late Van, Lockerie & Co. and W. Fernie, Oak Bay avenue, 10.

—To-morrow special Christmas music will be rendered by the choir of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church at both services. A number of anthems, quartets and solos will be given, also selections from "The Messiah."

—The choir of the First Presbyterian church has prepared an exceedingly attractive programme of Christmas music for both services Sunday, as will be seen from the church notice. This choir numbers about thirty-five voices, including several of the best soloists in Victoria, and has always been well spoken of for its choral work.

—Special interest will be given to the usual evening service at Victoria West Methodist church to-morrow, when the Rev. G. W. Dean will deliver an address on Civic Ideals. An opportunity will be given at the close of the address for questions and discussions, and in view of the coming elections it is expected that large numbers will be present and take part in the meeting. The service will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. A. E. Roberts.

—Last evening the children of the Sunday school of the St. Paul's Presbyterian church were given a supper by the older members of the church in Semple's hall. Tea was served at 6 o'clock and was followed by games and an impromptu programme. The programme included the following: Solo, Miss Bessie Mott, accompanied by Miss May Mott; instrumental selection, Miss Potheringham; duet, Louisa Lee and Catherine Minty; comic recitation, Alex Semple. Rev. D. McRae, the pastor of the church, presided.

—On Sunday morning at Harmony Hall Sunday school at 10 o'clock punctually the usual Christmas service will be held. The orchestra and members of the Sunday school have been learning some special music, and a ten-minute Christmas address will be given by A. J. Bruce, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. To all who are interested in work of this kind a special invitation is given. At 11 o'clock the usual meeting for worship will be held, at which G. H. Little, lately arrived from England and others, are expected to be present. The evening service at 7 p. m. will be led by A. T. Frampton, and a feature of this gathering will be song service led by the newly-formed orchestra. To all who are without a church home a cordial invitation is extended.

DIRECT FROM FRANCE

Unfermented (Mas-de-la-Ville) Grape Wine, guaranteed absolutely non-alcoholic. Just the Wine for your Christmas Dinner.

Quarts 75c. Pints 40c.

Carne's Up-to-date Grocery

COR. GOVT. AND FORT STS. Next to C. P. R. Office.

THE EXCLUSIVE FINCH & FINCH THE EXCLUSIVE
STYLE STORE. STYLE STORE.

MEN'S BATH ROBES SMOKING COATS LOUNGING ROBES

We are placing on sale our entire line of

Welch Margetson's, London's Best Clothes

OUR ASSORTMENT IS ONE OF THE BEST ON THE COAST
NEWEST COLORS AND PATTERNS.

The Special Price on Smoking Coats.	The Special Price on Lounging Robes.
Coats are \$5.00, for.....\$4.25	Lounging Robes, \$5.00, for.....\$3.75
Coats, \$7.00, for.....\$5.50	Lounging Robes, \$10.00, for.....\$8.25
Coats, \$10.00, for.....\$8.50	Lounging Robes, \$15.00, for.....\$12.50
Coats, \$12.00, for.....\$9.75	Lounging Robes, \$20.00, for.....\$17.00

Our Special Values on Suits and Overcoats Means a Very Important Saving to You.

We issue certificates payable in any merchandise we carry, good for any amount and payable to anyone you name.

Hatters 3107 Government Street. **FINCH & FINCH** 3107 Government Street.

CANDIDATES FOR CIVIC ELECTIONS

Those Who Are Expected to Be in the Field for Various Offices.

—George Morphy has moved his law offices from the board of trade building to the Mahon block, on Government street.

—The funeral of the late Mrs. McMillan will take place to-morrow at 1.45. The services will be conducted by Rev. G. K. B. Adams.

—The laying of the new paving on Government street will not be commenced until after the holidays. Mayor Morley says that a start could have been made immediately after Christmas, but it has been considered best not to fear up the street during the holiday season.

—On Monday evening the council will hold a conference with Dr. Fagan, representing the Provincial government, regarding the removal of the nuisance on the James Bay flats. It is probable that at this meeting some amicable arrangement will be made.

—With 16 holes in her bottom, keel torn away, stem split, blades off the propeller and stern post damaged, the fishing schooner Edrie has arrived in Seattle from the fishing banks of Southeastern Alaska after one of the hardest trips of the fleet this winter. She brought back 20,000 pounds of fish, the result of three days' work.

—The Bucknall steamship Kasembe is expected in port from the Sound to-morrow to complete loading for New Zealand. The Kasembe has been delayed through the excessive amount of freight, including all that was intended for the steamship Indravelli, not being repeated, which she has been loading. She will probably be here for a couple of days, and will leave for New Zealand with a full cargo.

CUSTOM TAILORS HANDICAPPED.
Have to Pay Big Profits to Middlemen Who Import Cloths.

"We say" is not so convincing as "we know." The same cloth which the Semi-ready Company buy direct from the British mills costs them \$1 a yard less than the custom tailor has to pay. The importing agents' prices are invariably 40 to 50 per cent. higher than those paid by the Semi-ready Company. "We know, because we have occasionally to buy a few suit lengths from them," said the chief buyer of Semi-ready fabrics, who is at present in England on his semi-annual buying trip. The difference in cost means \$2.50 to \$3 more on the cost of making a \$25 or \$30 suit.

SILVERWARE

ECONOMICAL GIFTS AT THESE PRICES.

Napkin Rings, 50c. to \$1.00.
Child's Spoon, \$1.00.
Breakfast Cruets, \$2.00 to \$4.00.
Butter Knives, 50c. to \$1.00.
Cake Basket, \$2.50 to \$7.00.
Marmalade Jar, \$2.50 to \$5.00.
Berry Spoon, \$2.00 to \$2.75.
Tea-Spoons: Coffee-Spoons with Sugar-Tongs, in case best value on record at \$3.

W. H. WILKERSON
915 GOVERNMENT STREET.
Next to Weller Bros. Tel. 1406.

INCREASES MADE IN THE SALARIES

Male Principals of Schools Are All to Receive the Same Amount.

At a special meeting of the board of school trustees held last night letters from a number of the teachers in the city schools about the recent salary advances were read. Some expressed thanks, curly, but many more suggested that the increases made were inadequate.

A communication addressed to the board by E. B. Paul, M. A., in which the latter suggested that further increases be made in the case of two lady teachers in the High school, was considered. Principal Paul pointed out that there was a possibility of both teachers resigning their positions if further advances were not made.

Trustee Lewis opposed the granting of further increases. He would be willing, he said, to advance salaries if the board was in a position to do so, but under the circumstances he felt justified in moving that the writer be notified that the board could not make any change. This motion was seconded and carried.

Trustee Riddell, upon the question of principals' salaries being brought up, moved that Messrs. Tait and Winsby, principals of the North Ward and South Park schools respectively, have their salaries increased to \$1,400.

Trustee Lewis declared strongly against this advance, saying that Principal Dean's salary had been raised to \$1,400 solely because he had more work to do than the other principals.

Trustee Riddell's motion, however, carried and Trustee Lewis was immediately on his feet.

"I move that the salary of Miss Williams, principal of the Girls' Central, be raised to \$1,400 also," he said. "If it is a question of making all principals' salaries equal I don't think Miss Williams should be left out."

Mrs. Jenkins suggested, at this juncture, that the board should deal with the question more seriously. Considering the importance of the subject, she thought that it should be treated with more consideration.

Trustee Lewis withdrew his motion, and the matter was dropped.

The resignation of Miss G. MacFarlane, of the South Park school, was accepted with an expression of regret. To fill two vacancies on the teaching staff Herbert Fringie, a graduate of Queen's University, and J. Van Munster, graduate of the University of Manitoba, were appointed at salaries of \$840 each, their engagements to date from January 1st.

Chairman Jay was authorized on motion of the board, to sign the contract for the Victoria West school heating

A RECORD BREAKER

UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS OF OUR

**GREAT
THREE-DAY
PIANO SALE**

WHICH DRAWS TO A CLOSE TO-NIGHT.

Advance Shipment of

10 NEW PIANOS

Arrives to-day

JUST IN TIME

TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SALE.

BARGAIN PRICES

Until 11 o'clock to-night

\$250 PIANOS at \$222

\$275 PIANOS at \$237

\$300 PIANOS at \$254

\$325 PIANOS at \$272

\$350 PIANOS at \$290

\$375 PIANOS at \$317

\$400 PIANOS at \$336

Tickets entitling you to a chance at our

Grand Drawing

FOR TEN

Beautiful New Style Aluminum Tone Arm Disc

GRAPHOPHONES

Will be given with all cash payments.

DRAWING TAKES PLACE JAN. 31st, 1908.

Fletcher Bros.

93 GOVT ST.
Headquarters for Musical Xmas Presents.

XMAS APPLES

The finest assortment of Xmas Apples in the city at

\$2.25 PER BOX

Must be seen to be appreciated.

COOKING APPLES, per box \$1.50

F. P. WATSON

PHONE 448. GROCERIES 623 YATES ST.

STANDARD STEAM LAUNDRY



SPOTLESS LINEN
Means clean white, with new appearance, perfect shape and workmanship. Does yours? If not, give us a trial. PERFECT LAUNDRING. Lies in the way we handle your clothes. No acids to damage them. Up-to-date machinery to save them from wear and tear, so when it arrives home, you will be pleased with our work. We call and deliver free of charge. 84 VIEW STREET. Phone 1017.

STOP!

AT THE CORNER OF FORT AND BLANCHARD STREETS AND BUY YOUR GROCERIES Dicks & Bloomquist

FRANK J. ARMSTRONG

VIOLINIST
Graduate of Leipzig Conservatory of Music. Private pupil of Hans Becker. Will receive pupils at 521 Michigan St. Telephone A345.

Y. M. C. A.

MEN'S MEETING Sunday, 4 o'clock

Geo. Henry Little, of Manchester, Eng., "AN XMAS MESSAGE TO MEN." Hear him sure. A special treat to Englishmen.

Song service, 8.30. Special singing. Bible discussion, 7.30; social tea, 8 o'clock.

BUY YOUR TALKING MACHINES RECORDS AND SUPPLIES

FROM US AND GET THE \$100

In Cold Hard Cash

A coupon given with every 50c. or \$1 purchase.

Cast your bid

For the elegant Louis XV. Piano shown in our window. The highest bidder takes the Piano on New Year's Eve.

M. W. WAITT & CO. LIMITED.

Oldest Music House in B. C. 1004 GOVERNMENT ST.

Pearl Brooch
Enclosed in a handsome velvet case, this Brooch sells
For \$5
The pearls are all selected and of good quality. The mounting is of heavy 10 K gold (not hollow) and is substantially made.
THE J. H. WHITNEY CO. JEWELLERS
1003 GOVERNMENT ST.

We Beg to Inform the Public That We Are Now Prepared to Supply the
Nolte Patent Eyeglasses
MADE IN CANADA BY
F. W. NOLTE & CO.
617 FORT STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.

"EBONY"

MAKES A LASTING GIFT

Nothing more appreciable to a smart woman or up-to-date man. Wide choice here of the very highest class genuine Ebony goods.

Marked Down to Lowest Possible Prices

Ladies' Hair Brushes, real ebony, \$4.25, \$3.50, \$3, \$2.50, \$2, \$1.75, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1 and 75c.

Men's Military Brushes, real ebony with genuine Russian bristles, 50c. and intermediate prices to .52.

Military Brushes, new style narrow brush, in green ebony48.

Military Brushes, highly polished wood, 50c. and intermediate prices to .51.

Silver Mounted Military Brushes for \$1.50.

Other Ebony Brushes here in profusion: Baby Brushes, Hat Brushes, Bonnet Whisks, Nail Brushes, English, Clothier Brushes, etc.

Kent's Famous Hair Brushes. White Celluloid Brushes, also very suitable for Gift Goods, all popularly priced.

A Visit Here Will Convince You Of Our Wonderful Values

SWEET GIFTS, PERFUMES
All the new makes of Fiver, Roger & Gallet, Crown Kerkoff, Colgate and Seely. Beautifully Boxed Perfumes in handsome cut-glass bottles, 25c to \$5.

TERRY & MARETT

THE PRESCRIPTION DRUGGISTS.
Cor. Fort and Douglas Sts.

Cor. Broad & View Sts.

M. W. WAITT & CO.
41 Government Street, Victoria, B. C.

1008 Government St. Phone A953

Capt. Mica-Clark, the North Ward girls' hockey team, was last night presented with the Colanet championship cup, and it will for the next year adorn the library of Mr. Tait's school.

The school boys' hockey team of High school has won the championship, and Central comes second. Now the boys are looking forward to the Rugby series.

The betting on the Rugby game is one to one against Vancouver.

There is a very heavy snowfall in a daily bureau. It will stirred the

TAKE NOTICE that the British Columbia Cannery Company, Limited, of London, England, and Victoria, B. C., salmon canners and sawmill owners, intend to erect a cannery on the shore of the lake described foregoing on the west line of Lot 4, Coast District, Commencing at the N. W. corner of the said lot, and planted about three chains N. & E. from the church, situate on the Wannanuck River, inlet, B. C., thence N. & E. about 25 chains to a post marked "B. C. Co., N. W. post."

B. C. CANNING COMPANY, LIMITED.
G. C. JOHNSTON,
Agent, Victoria, B. C.

25th October, 1912.

A. 10 and S. 12, Coastal District, Commonwealth
at a post marked "B. C. Co., N. Y.
post," planted on the western corner of
the historic Cannery, Rivers Inlet, thence
S. E. to B. about 22 chains, thence, west
about 20 chains to a post marked "B. C.
Co., W. post."
B. C. CANNING COMPANY, LIMITED
G. C. JOHNSTON.
Agent, Victoria, B. C.
25th October, 1907.

OFFICE: 53 WHARF STREET.
Phone 1164.

Challoner & Mitchell's XMAS SUGGESTIONS

FOR WOMEN

BROOCH.
RING.
NECKLET.
BRACELET.
BELT BUCKLE.
FAN.
HATPIN.
HAIR COMBS.
SILVER TOILET SET.
JEWEL CASE.
HANDKERCHIEF BOX.
GLOVE BOX.
WRITING SET.
BLOUSE PINS.
SILVER CARD CASE.
GOLD PURSE.
SILVER PURSE.
SHOPPING BAG.
SILVER TEA POT.
CANDLESTICKS.
ENTREE DISHES.
COFFEE KETTLE.
FRUIT DISH.
READING LAMP.
BONNET WHISK.

FOR GIRLS

SILVER RANGLE.
CHAIN BRACELET.
EBONY HAIR BRUSH.
EBONY MANICURE SET.
GOLD NECKLET.
RING.
LOCKET.
CROSS.
CORAL NECKLET.
SHOE HORN, ETC.

FOR MEN

FOUNTAIN PEN.
CUFF LINKS.
SCARF PIN.
INK WELL.
BRIDGE SET.
TOBACCO POUCH.
FLASK.
CARD CASE.
CIGARETTE CASE.
CIGAR BOX.
MATCH BOX.
EBONY MILITARY BRUSHES.
SILVER MILITARY BRUSHES.
SHAVING BRUSH.
WATCH CHAIN.
LEATHER BILL BOOK.
DESK LAMP.
FIELD GLASS.
SHIRT STUDS.
PENCIL.
FOR.
PAPER KNIFE.
BLOTTER.
FINE PLAYING CARDS.
MOTOR CLOCK.

FOR BOYS

POCKET KNIFE.
WATCH.
CUFF LINKS.
WATCH CHAIN.
LOCKET.
CANE.
COIN BOX.
PURSE.
WHISTLE.
SHIRT STUDS, ETC.

FOR THE BABY

Rattle, Ring, Necklet, Bracelet, Brush, Food Pusher, Spoon, Puff Box, Silver Mug, Pap Bowl, Knife, Fork and Spoon, Etc.

HUNDREDS OF BEAUTIFUL AND USEFUL ARTICLES HERE FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, RANGING FROM 25c. UP TO ANY DESIRED PRICE.

CHALLONER & MITCHELL

Diamond Merchants and Silversmiths.
47-49 GOVERNMENT STREET.

OVER THE TEA TABLE

Ladies, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Prentice and Mrs. Flumerfelt.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Macgowan (nee Russell), of Los Angeles, are making their first visit to Victoria since their marriage. While here they are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Grimason, Victoria West, who on Thursday night gave a small party in their honor.

Mrs. D. M. Rogers is in Tacoma.

Miss Gladys Mason has returned from a visit with friends in Vancouver.

Mrs. Smith, of Duncan, visited during the week with her friend, Mrs. Thomas H. Jeemings, of Dallas Road.

Mrs. Justin Gilbert is back from Lelpale, where she left her daughter to receive instruction in violin playing.

Chief Justice and Mrs. Hunter have gone to their Shawnigan Lake place, where they will spend Christmas.

Mrs. G. L. Courtney has returned from Seattle, where she was visiting friends for two weeks.

Miss Marguerite Little's many friends are glad to see her around again, after her recent illness.

Mrs. J. D. Prentice and child are back in Victoria, staying at "Schulman."

Mrs. A. E. McPhillips and children have gone to Los Angeles for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Garnett, of Shawnigan, are down for a few days before Xmas and are staying at their Burdette Avenue house.

Mrs. Combe and Miss Norah Combe will not be home for Xmas as originally intended, but will remain for some time yet in California.

Mrs. Spalding, of Pender Island, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Mackay, of Superior street, left for home this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Coles have returned from a couple of months' trip to England where Mr. Coles visited his old home.

Mrs. Bowker, of Bowker's beach, Oak Bay, has gone to Los Angeles and other California points, where she will spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hunter (nee McNeill), whose wedding was the chief social event of last week in Vancouver, are spending their honeymoon in Victoria.

On Wednesday, Mrs. A. P. Luxton, of Rockland avenue, entertained at luncheon the following ladies, viz.: Mrs. Dunsmuir, Mrs. Fris, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs.

One of the social events which is being looked forward to with a great deal of excitement is the masque and domino dance to be given by Mrs. Todd on Friday night, January 10th. It will be in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Alice Gillespie, who will have returned from their honeymoon by that time.

Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Magill, of Shawnigan Lake, have taken a house for a month on Foul Bay road. Mr. Magill is one of the crack players of the Oak Bay golf club, and as he is to play in the team games against Seattle and Portland he wants to be near the grounds so that he can get plenty of practice.

I hear that there is a movement on foot to revive the old Invitation Dance Club, and that a meeting of those interested will be held next week to make the necessary arrangements. It will be remembered that the club gave many very enjoyable dances a couple of years ago, but last year a skating club was formed instead, but interest in it gradually dwindled away. That the dancing club is to be formed again is being hailed with delight by the younger set, to whom nothing else compares with a dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Galbraith, of this city, quietly celebrated their golden wedding last Tuesday at their residence, 429 Belleville street.

Many intimate friends called during the afternoon and evening to tender congratulations and good wishes, and a number of appropriate gifts were received by the happy couple, who have seen 50 years of wedded life. They were married in Paisley, Ont., but have made Victoria their home for the past 19 years. Miss Sarah Galbraith assisted her parents in receiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cambie, who were here recently on their honeymoon, have taken a house at 102 Bedford road, Toronto, pending the completion of their own house, and in this connection the following extracted from a Toronto exchange will be of interest:

"Mrs. Chas. Cambie (nee Nordheimer) received yesterday for the first time since her marriage, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Nordheimer, Glenora, Mrs. Cambie wore a charming dress of mauve chiffon with velvet stripes, the corsage having a lace yoke and garniture. Her bridesmaids and the Misses Nordheimer assisted in the reception of the many visitors. Mrs. Cambie will be at home again to-day."

LADY GAY.

mission work. This old mine, he says, was opened up by parties resident principally in Victoria, and was abandoned owing to the fact that the appliances for mining and smelting were comparatively crude twenty or thirty years ago. Some of the parties who were interested in this old mine, Mr. Green says, are still living in this city. This mine is situated about twelve miles from Skidegate, in the Queen Charlotte Islands.

WANTS DISFIGURE THE HANDS.

But can be painlessly removed in twenty-four hours by the use of Putnam's Wart and Corn Extractor. Thirty years in use and still the best. Insist on getting Putnam's only.

Last night a telegram was received in the city announcing the death of W. J. Nelson, popularly known as "Judge" Nelson, police magistrate of Rossland. Deceased was a brother of Mrs. A. A. Graham, and Mrs. James Scott, of this city. Mrs. Graham left for Rossland on receipt of telegram.

Beautiful Elderdown quilts, manufactured from the best English embossed satin, finished with panel borders; nicely stitched eyelets for ventilation. Each quilt is filled with best English down. Well worth \$20 each. Extraordinary value at \$12.75. Robinson's Cash Store, 88 Yates street.

Wood Wood Wood

We have the largest supply of GOOD DRY WOOD in the City. FINE CUT WOOD a specialty. Try us and be convinced.

BURT'S WOOD YARD

WING ON & SON, EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

All kinds of Chinese help furnished. Men for railroads, mining, wood cutting, clearing land, house work, gardeners and farm hands. House, hotel and camp cooks. Cook for steamship, man for livery stable, laundry, carpenter and sawmill hands, etc. Scavengers.

530 CORMORANT ST. 'PHONE B112

EMPRESS DRUG HALL

Our Import Goods have arrived, consisting of
French Perfumes, Powders and Soaps

CALL AND SEE

GEO. A. FRASER, Prop.

30-32 Government Street.

CANADIAN TOBACCO.

Growing in Favor for Pipe Smoking and Chewing Purposes.

Canadian-grown tobacco has long had its devotees among pipe-smokers, and chewers. Many who have become accustomed to it far prefer it to any other, and sever the ties of praising its virtues.

It is only within recent years, however, that improved methods of growing and curing have caused users of the "plant divine" to show a general increase in appreciation of certain tobaccos made from special Canadian leaf.

The extent of this appreciation can best be judged from the statistics of production in the counties of Essex and Kent in Ontario.

From a total production in these counties, of 60,000 lbs. of tobacco in the year 1885, the output has increased until in 1905, it was over a hundred times the first figure, and totalled 6,500,000 lbs. Last year another million was added, making 7,500,000 lbs.

The farmers in the district named have realized that the soil was suitable and have given proper attention to methods of growing and preparing the leaf for the market.

That is why the liking for Canadian tobacco is becoming more general.

Building Lots

FOR SALE

Houses Built

ON THE INSTALMENT PLAN.

D. H. Bale

CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.

'Phone 1146.



WHAT GIFT?

See Hinton's

The Christmas Present query is often perplexing. A visit here will solve the problem; it offers countless suggestions:

Electric Lamps, Art Domes in Leaded Glass, Mosaic and other exclusive high class effects. The grandest display of Electroliers and Art Lamps under one roof in Canada.

We would also add Electric Heaters, Electric Cookers, Electric Flatirons, excellent ideas for Christmas Presents.

Hinton Electric Co., Limited
29 GOVERNMENT STREET.

STODDART'S CLEARING SALE

Goods Offered at Great Reductions
to Secure the Holiday Trade.

Fancy Goods in Great Variety

Many goods will be sold less than cost. DIAMOND RINGS AND OTHER PRECIOUS STONE RINGS are offered fully 10 per cent. under the wholesale price at the present time. 14 kt. solid Gold Chains will be weighed to purchasers on the premises against the same weight in gold dollars or English pounds.

Watches

Vanguard 23 Diamond and Ruby Jewelled Waltham Watches... \$33.00
Elgin Veritas 23 Ruby Jewels... \$33.00
Solid Silver Watches, 15 Jewels... \$6.00
A good, strong, dust-proof cased Elgin Watch for... \$6.00
Ingersoll's Watches, stemwind (Eclipse brand)... \$1.00
Solid Silver Waltham and Elgin Stemwind Watches... \$7.00

Jewellery

Solid Gold real Pearl Brooches from... \$2.00
Children's Solid Gold Rings from... \$0.50
14 kt. Gold Filled Bracelets from... \$1.50
Solid Gold Bracelets from... \$7.00
Solid Gold Cuff Links from... \$2.50
Gold Filled Cuff Links from... \$0.50

Ladies' 20-Year Gold Filled Chains, from... \$2.00
Solid Gold Necklets from... \$2.75
Solid Gold Locket from... \$1.25
Solid Gold Scarf Pin, with genuine Pearls, from... \$2.50

Silver Ware

Sterling Silver Tea Sets, 4 pieces, full size, from... \$65.00
Silver Plated Tea Sets, 4 pieces and tray, from... \$8.00
Cake Baskets from... \$2.75
Butter Dishes, standard silver plate, from... \$1.00
Bread Trays from... \$2.50
Silver Plated Cruets from... \$1.75
Solid Silver Picture Frames from... \$1.50
Salad Bowls and Servers from... \$5.50
Silver Bon-Bon Dishes from... \$2.00
Biscuit Jars from... \$3.50

Silver Flat Ware

Sterling Silver Spoons from... \$2.75
Dessert Forks, half-dozen... \$2.75
Table Forks... \$2.75
Quadruple Silver Plated Spoons, in half-dozen boxes... \$1.50
Dessert Spoons... \$2.75
Table Spoons... \$3.00

Pie Knives, Berry Spoons, Coffee Spoons and a full line of every design of Flat Ware. We keep Henry Rogers, Rogers 1847, Wm. Rogers and also our own special named (Stoddart) goods, which we recommend to be equal to any brand made.

Clocks

Nickel Alarms... 75c
Mission Clocks... \$5.00
Spasmodic Alarms... \$1.75
Cuckoo Clocks from... \$7.50
8-Day Striking Clocks... \$2.50

Cut Glass Wares

Sugar and Creams, Fruit Bowls, Scent Bottles, Cruet Sets, Salt and Pepper, Jugs, Whiskey Glasses, Nappies, Knife Rest, Puff Boxes, Mustard Pots, Celery Dishes.

Hand Painted China

From Celebrated Austrian Artists.

A Splendid Assortment of

Leather Goods

Purses, Bill Books and every kind usually wanted, at prices below regular prices.

STODDART'S CLEARING SALE

73 Yates Street

2 Doors from Corner of Douglas Street.

ABOUT THAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Is He (or She) Interested in Motoring?

If so, you are sure to give satisfaction, by giving anything selected from the following list. Come and see us; we will be delighted to explain the uses of everything.

MOTOR CLOCKS, VOLT METERS, HANDSOME

LEATHER LINED COATS, LADIES' AND GENTS'

FUR GLOVES, RAINCOATS, (special for Motoring),

STEPHNEY SPARE WHEELS, TOOL KITS,

SPEEDOMETERS, LAMPS (Side, Tail, Headlights,

Launch, and Electric), HORNS (all kinds).

These are only suggestions, we have \$10,000.00 stock to select from. NOTE—We shall be pleased at all times to change undamaged goods that may not be suitable to the recipient.

PLIMLEY AUTOMOBILE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

Government St., opposite Post Office
AND CORNER GOVERNMENT AND SUPERIOR STREETS.

Victoria Theatre

Saturday, December 21st

MATINEE AND NIGHT.
STETSON'S
ORIGINAL BIG DOUBLE

Uncle Tom's Cabin

More Grand Novelties than ever. Two Brass Bands and Orchestra. Col. Sawyer's Pack Siberian Bloodhounds. WATCH FOR THE BIG STREET PARADE.

Special Matinee Prices 50c. and 60c. Night Prices 50c. 20c. 75c. Box office opens Thursday, Dec. 19th.

Victoria Theatre

MONDAY, DEC. 23rd

GEO.

Primrose's
Mammoth
Minstrels

Headed by the Dandiest of all-Dancing Comedians, GEORGE H. PRIMROSE. Magnificent production, splendid stingers, wonderful novelties, an ocean of movement, fifty lozmakers. Prices, 50c, 20c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50. Box office opens 10 a.m., Friday, December 20th.

PANTAGES THEATRE

JOHNSON ST.

Johnson St., High Class Vaudeville. Week Commencing Dec. 18, 1907. THE THREE AZARDS, Premier Acrobats and Balancers. The Radium Lights of Vaudeville, "BILLY SWEDIE" HALL and JENNIE COLEBURN, in their character playlet "The Swede and the Happy Girl." DANCING DAVE, the original dancer, your heart-off kid. JNO. T. CHICK & CO., in their screaming comedy sketch "Charity Begins at Home." MISS CRAWFORD, the favorite Song Illustrator. THE PANTAGESCOPE in the latest production. Two performances nightly, 8 and 9.15. Matinees 2 p. m.

FRANK MELLOR

PAINTER & DECORATOR
Phone 1564 801 Yates St.

THE NEW GRAND

Week 23rd December.

MAMMOTH CHRISTMAS BILL.

AMEEN ABOUT HAMED
TROUPE OF ARABS.
Eight People, Pyramid Builders, Acrobats and Whirlwind Dancers.

LIZZIE JEFFERSON

EVANS AND LLOYD.

Comedy Sketch, "Turning the Tables."

GRAY AND GRAHAM.

The Musical Bell Boy and the Military

Maid.

THE ROSAIRES.

Tight and Slack Wire Artists.

EVANGELINE METCALFE.

Singing and Acrobatic Dancing.

THOS. J. PRICE, SONG ILLUSTRATOR.

"Keep on Smiling."

NEW MOVING PICTURES.

"The Cupboard Plank."

OUR OWN ORCHESTRA.

M. NAGEL, DIRECTOR.

"A Tourist's Experience in Victoria."

Repeated by Request.

NEXT WEEK: THE EDDY FAMILY.

WINTON AGENTS

WOOD BROS. GARAGE

88 FORT STREET

AUTOS FOR HIRE at all hours

PHONE 241.

AT THE RINK

Brand New Ball Bearings

RICHARDSON SKATES

JUST THE THING FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

WM. C. McEARNAHAN, Prop.

Roller Rink.

Sole Agent.

The dispute relative to the expenses of a hunting trip in the North was settled in the county court yesterday before Judge Lampman. The cook of the expedition brought action to recover his wages, both parties to the suit, Colonel Appleton and Mr. Conduit refusing to pay on the ground that each had contributed more than his fair share to the expedition. Judge Lampman ordered a settlement on the basis of two-fifths to be charged to Col. Appleton and three-fifths to Mr. Conduit.

Just arrived from China, new and stylish embroidered silk. Sale for all customers. Price reasonable. Quong Man Fung & Co., 1715 Government street, city.

Ladies' Watches

Our Special Ladies' Watch

At \$15

Is a very accurate time-keeper, carrying our fullest

Guarantee.

The case is 14 K. Filled

Gold, guaranteed for 25

years.

The same movement in a

Solid Gold Case at \$25 to \$50

years.

THE J. M. WHITNEY CO.

JEWELLERS
1205 GOVERNMENT ST.

Buy the Times



Wireless Telephony.

Judging from the published descriptions, the wireless telephonic apparatus adopted by the United States navy greatly resembles that on trial in the British naval signal schools. For a long time past the "wireless" experts of the British fleet have seen the possibility of telephoning as well as telegraphing without wires, and have been trying to perfect instruments for doing this. A good deal of success has attended their efforts. Probably the British navy is as far ahead in wireless telephony as the United States navy. Both, however, are far from having hit upon the perfect thing. At least, that is what one gathers from the men who know best. Still, the difficulties will be overcome—of that there can be no doubt—just as were those encountered when wireless telegraphy was in its infancy.

Victory and Dreadnought.

Lord Londonderry, speaking at the Colchester Oyster Feast, alluded to Trafalgar day. He said that at Trafalgar they had the best naval engagement under sail, and it was interesting to compare the details of the Victory with the recently-launched Dreadnought. The tonnage of the Victory was 2,148; that of the Dreadnought 17,900, nearly nine times the size. From the commencement of building to the date of her first commission, the period in the case of the Victory was 19 years. The Dreadnought was completed in 14 months. The Victory cost £83,000; the Dreadnought one and a half million pounds, exclusive of armament, or, roughly speaking, about 20 times as much. The complement of the Victory was 550; that of the Dreadnought he believed considerably fewer.

Scout Cruiser.

A new type of cruiser was recently launched at Quincy, Mass., for the United States navy, and is now being completed. According to the Scientific American, the vessel, named the Salem, is to be capable of 24 knots. Her principal dimensions are: Length, 423 ft.; breadth, 46 ft. 8 in.; depth, 36 ft. 5 in. Her draught when fully loaded will be 19 ft. 2 in. Her displacement will be 440 tons, and the total capacity 1,250 tons. The engines will be Curtis marine turbines 130 in. diameter, of a combined brake-horse-power of 16,000, and the battery will consist of two 5 in. and six 3 in. rapid-fire guns and two 21 in. submerged torpedo tubes. Nickel steel of 80 lb. per square foot is worked on the shell plating for that length of the machinery space extending from about 3 1/2 ft. below the waterline to about 9 1/2 ft. above.

Blown to Pieces.

A few days ago at Bourges, France, ten artillerymen were marched to the

artillery butts in charge of a case containing twenty melinite shells. The shells were placed in a cart driven by a wagoner, who had long been employed by the military authorities in the same dangerous task.

The wagoner marched on foot beside his horse. Eight men, with their petty officer, marched behind the wagon. The ninth man followed about a quarter of a mile behind.

On the march the men mounted into the wagon. Shortly after the heap of melinite shells exploded. The shock was felt, say the reports from Bourges, for miles around the spot. The soldier who was marching in the rear was pitched headlong to a considerable distance. Recovering, he ran to the scene of the catastrophe. The body of the petty officer he found scattered into shreds. Portions of it were hanging from the branches of a tree. The remains of the other seven men were dispersed in all directions, and picked up bit by bit. The wagoner shared the same fate.

The horse, say the reports, escaped unharmed.

The surviving soldier says that he himself and his comrades mounted into the wagon because of the heavy rain, although this was against the regulations. When nearing the artillery ground he left the wagon and walked some distance behind. Then the others jumped off, and instantly there was the flash of a terrific explosion. It is supposed that in jumping off the soldiers caused a sharp concussion of the shells.

The small fragments remaining of the bodies were picked up, put in a sack and carried to the military hospital. These remains were subsequently buried.

A Soldierly Spelling.

General Sir John French has issued his final remarks on the training of the Aldershot command during 1907. In reviewing generally the work he feels justified in congratulating all ranks of the command on the results achieved. The value of winter training was clearly shown by the increased standard of efficiency which was apparent in the staff tours and the important part of divisional inspection and command exercises.

Referring to the Cavalry Brigade he further impresses on the cavalry leaders the great value of regular and progressive training. This principle has not, he says, been so carefully observed as he hopes to see in the future. Work was too much interrupted by engaging in parade movement in anticipation of reviews. Marching past was but an ordinary manoeuvre. If a body of cavalry is training properly no particular evolution should require special practice.

Sir John gives unqualified praise to the troops for the swimming of the Thames by night by the whole brigade in a wonderfully short space of time, an almost unique performance, and a task which could only have been carried out by very highly trained and disciplined troops.

The tactical handling of artillery with other arms had been excellent. The work done by the Royal Engineers had also been excellent and full of instruction. Good progress had been made with searchlights and balloons, and there had been marked improvement in wireless telephony.

General French expresses pleasure in the great progress made by the infantry, the improvement in musketry being very marked; and he concludes his remarks by stating that it is a source of deep satisfaction to him to have had irrefragable proof that the splendid soldierly spirit and devotion to duty which in past years has been so much in evidence throughout the ranks of the Aldershot command, has in no way been diminished by the increasing calls made upon their energy and endurance.

Union Jack Club.

Since the Union Jack Club was opened by his Majesty last July in London, over 12,000 men have occupied the bedrooms, the number of soldiers being about equal to that of sailors and marines. No further proof is, therefore, required that the club has met a real want and is a great success. It is much appreciated by the men of both services, and its popularity is assured. The council have but one regret, and that is their inability to provide accommodation for all who at every week-end flock to its doors from the naval and military stations. The number of bedrooms now available is 294; yet week after week not one of these rooms remains unoccupied. Every effort is made by temporary makeshifts to satisfy the demands of the men anxious to live in their own club rather than sleep at the indifferent lodging houses which abound in the neighborhood. A limit, however, is reached when it becomes impossible to provide any further accommodation in the club, and consequently hundreds of men have to make their own arrangements for the night elsewhere. This is far from satisfactory, and the council of the Union Jack Club desires to obtain the additional bedrooms which are so much needed. This can be done by building the extension, for which a portion of the original site is still available. The effect would be an increase of 150 bedrooms. The council has already in its possession a part of the requisite funds. With the object of providing the whole of the balance, a magazine, containing stories, articles and poems, profusely illustrated, is to be produced next year. A large number of authors and authoresses have already promised practical and sympathetic support, and it is hoped that many leading artists will generously assist with sketches and illustrations. All communications should be addressed to Major H. F. Trippel, Onslow Hall, Richmond, Surrey, who is the originator of the idea, and will act as honorary editor-in-chief.

GLACE BAY FINANCE.

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 20.—A report is current that an investigation into the financial affairs of the town of Glace Bay will shortly take place, and that the Burchill Coal Company, which is the largest taxpayer in town, will be the party to ask for the enquiry. It is thought that the whole period since the town became incorporated will be covered by the proposed inquiry.

The Gateway of Macedonia

By C. F. G. Masterman in the London News.

We came down to Salonica through a series of fertile valleys broken by the mountain chains which led downward to the sea. Behind Constantinople the land is a desert, embedded in the ruins of once populous cities. On all our route the rich soil had scarcely been scratched. It lies waste and empty, covered with short scrub or rank grasses, with just a few fields cultivated round the villages, or tiny patches of tillage standing forlorn amid a surrounding desolation. Here in these patches are the yellow maize, the cotton plant with its little bluish white bell-shaped blossoms, with tall green stems and crumpled leaves. Between the blue mountains and the blue sea and all up those valleys which lie amongst the hills there lies before a liberated people the promise of a bounteous harvest.

In Salonica we were at the centre of the reform; with all the elaborate machinery which Europe has erected since the inception of the good government of Macedonia. The officers of the international gendarmerie were assembled there in conference. The international finance commission was preparing its criticism of the new budget. The inspector-general was carrying out his customary immense activity by letter and telegram.

The forces of unrest everywhere meet the investigator who probes at all beneath the surface. Each observer appears to be doubtful what the day or the hour may bring forth. Opinion varied with the position of the witnesses. A Sister of Mercy, very familiar with the more violent elements in the obscure quarters of the city, thinks that the condition of the country steadily worsens. More murders were committed last week than ever before. She describes the massacre of the brickmakers, a few miles out from Salonica, with the pitiful scenes of the bodies being brought into the town—many of them quite young boys—amid the lamentations of the people. She thinks the population are getting desperate at the endless delay in the coming of reform, and may do desperate work. "They have heard of the events in Morocco, where the killing of seven foreigners produced a European occupation. They demand of me, 'Would you like the killing of seven foreigners in Salonica produced a similar result?'"

An English official of high position is convinced that no permanent amelioration is possible without war. Meanwhile he thinks that it is worth while worrying on at the slow labor of reform. Something—if so little—has been accomplished. The judges are paid; justice is no longer openly bought and sold in Salonica. The inspectors in the three districts up country where they have been working, have lightened the burden of the peasant by the elimination of the tax farmer. It is the Greek bands who are chiefly responsible for a hideous reign of terror and promiscuous murder and pillage. The immediate necessity was for the suppression of this organized massacre, even at the cost of armed demonstration at Athens. The active pursuit of the Greek bands by the Turkish authorities could probably compel their quiescence. "The Bulgarians are accustomed to die. He does not mind it. The Greek is very careful of his life. If he thought that was endangered he would very speedily abandon the enterprise."

Some hospitable Greek merchants and their friends were emphatic in explanation of the Greek view. The present work was merely retaliation for the previous anti-Greek activity on the part of the Bulgarians. The Bulgarians were "the spoiled children of Europe." The Bulgarians were barbarous. All the Slavs were barbarous. Encouraged by Russia they even entertained ambitions to come down to the Aegean and Greek seas where the Slav had never been. I asked if, sooner or later, it would not be necessary to effect a compromise. "Never—never," they declared with fervor. "will the Greeks and the Bulgarians dwell together in peace."

Himti Pasha, the cleverest diplomat in Europe, was kind enough to receive us. For four years he has played with the ministers and nations; keeping Macedonia under the direct control of the Turk; keeping at bay the efforts towards international intervention; keeping—as by a miracle—his own position secure. He entertained us with elaborate courtesy; coming to the door to greet our entrance; following us to the staircase to honor our exit. He pressed on us coffee and cigarettes and tea in large glasses. Of venerable and benignant aspect, in frock-coat and fob, and with straggly grey beard, he poured out a continuous stream of explanation, protest and appeal. Messengers, soft-footed and silent, in and out, bringing documents for signing or telegraphic messages, all of which the inspector-general punctually dispatched without checking the even flow of his conversation.

This conversation was the revelation of his inmost soul exhibited—as for the first time—with an extraordinary and engaging candor. He was pained by the activity of "le Comte Balcanique" in England, and of my companion, who had come to the country with an "idée fixe" against the Turk. He was pained by the perfidy of various newspaper correspondents, who had spoken him fair, and to whom he had given every facility for visiting the country, but who had gone away and written lies about it. These lies had been repeated at Constantinople, and he had been asked for difficult explanations—20 wounded had been converted into 2,000. Atrocities had been reported, of which the most elaborate investigation could discover no trace. We assured him of the high respect in which his name was held in England. "My friend," he exclaimed. "It was the good name of the administration for which he was concerned. All he asked was that the truth should be told; the whole truth; nothing but the truth. The newspaper press of Europe was an all powerful instrument for good or evil. It had not sufficiently recognized its responsibility. A good man would only seek for the advancement of two things: 'la verité,' 'l'humanité.' It was deplorable that the newspaper press did not set itself more consistently to work for the ad-

vancement of 'la verité; l'humanité.' As for us, despite our acknowledged hostility to the Turk, we should go everywhere. We should see everything. All the doors would be thrown open to us. Every official would be found 'tree-agenda.' When you return I shall be delighted to discuss anything you may find wrong. Perhaps you will convince me. Perhaps you will be convinced."

So at the gateway of Macedonia is being played "what universally in the interior is termed 'la comédie Européenne.' Upon all which tragic farces the sun shines to-day out of a cloudless sky, with the waters of the Aegean, like opal and pearl, a sheet of transparent glass, softly washing the shores of Salonica. Towards evening—dim shadows—a far horizon reveal that Mount Olympus which was once the dwelling of the older gods; who, smiling in secret "looking over wasted lands," found all the plaint and terror of the "ill-used race of men," but as distant music, like a tale of little meaning, though the words are strong.

"Alone in London"

London is certainly the best place in the world for solitude. If you want to be quite alone, with not a soul to bother you, come to London.

Of course, there are people about; hundreds, thousands, millions of them; innumerable, nameless people. But if you do not know them, what are they to you? They pass you by in the street, like the omnibuses and the cabs. They are part of the street furniture.

When you get home you may meet a landlady, a fellow-lodger, a servant, or someone else, to whom you may say a word as you go by. But if you know no one here you will be as solitary, in your room or your house, as any legendary monk in the desert.

A singular thing is this mighty loneliness of cities; a very agreeable thing if you happen to want it. But if you do not? If you are all for companionship and friendly faces, for the bustle and noise of society, how you will hate this solitude in the midst of moving crowds, this isolation walled in by multitudes!

Strangers to London, who come from the country, feel it most.

In the country you are always supposed to lead a lonely life. As a matter of fact, custom, in nearly all cases, prevents your doing so. Custom provides that a newcomer to any country district shall be called upon, immediately, by the rest of those who live in it.

The doctor's wife calls, and the clergyman of the neighboring village. People drive over from the town near. Especially in these days of mourning is life in the country apt to be a whirl of social gaiety. It is positively exhausting in certain neighborhoods. People have to come to town for rest cures to get over the strain of rural life.

In London, if they come for rest, they need not tell their friends that they are here. Nobody will know. The people next door will not bother. Everybody is busy, occupied elsewhere. You have to shout to be heard in a noise. In the country silence you can be heard shutting your front door.

So it happens that every year many people who like society come to London, driven by business or some other necessity, and feel themselves lost and forsaken here.

If you doubt this, you have only to take up any morning paper and look down the advertisement column of "wants."

Here is somebody, for instance, who would like a companion to go out shopping with in the morning. Lower down is "a lady" who would like to meet "another lady" for companionship. Other stranded people ask for someone to travel with, someone to share a flat with, someone to talk to or to read to them. All seem to be suffering from London loneliness.

Often and often the Daily Mirror, in which this article was written, receives pathetic letters from those afflicted by this city malady. The writers ask for clubs, for introductions, for any means to find companions. No doubt such clubs exist, and such companions are to be found for the seeking. But remember that you must "pick and choose" in a city, and those whose acquaintance it is too easy to make are not the kind sought for by timid people.

However, a safe system of clubs to which the lonely, especially lonely women, could "easily gain membership, after proper references were given, would find themselves thrown by circumstances into this vast sea of alien faces—each face turned away from them, fixed coldly on business and the labors of the day, not one turned towards them—who may, perhaps, have been accustomed to the sympathy of many friends.

BODE'S GUM

MASTICATING

IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH.

KINGSTON ELECTION.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 20.—J. C. Gallagher was nominated by the Conservatives as their candidate for the legislature.

Shaving Mirrors

For a man who shaves, no gift would bring quite so much pleasure as a Triple Shaving Mirror. These have attachments so that they can be either secured to the wall or stood up on a table.

Prices \$8 and \$20

THE J. M. WHITNEY CO. JEWELLERS
1205 GOVERNMENT ST.

ONLY TWO PURCHASING DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS DON'T DELAY

We are giving 20 per cent. Discount on all Cash Purchases except Diamonds.

REMEMBER THE VOTING TICKETS

REDFERNS

Diamond Merchants and Jewellers

Furniture Gifts

A present of a Piece of Furniture is always appreciated. All our goods are marked at special holiday prices

OUR MORRIS CHAIR is extra good value. Special at \$8.50	ROCKERS, CENTRE TABLES AND PARLOR FURNITURE all marked down at prices within the reach of all.
We have a few EXTENSION TABLES left at \$6.75	In DINING CHAIRS we have an assortment at prices ranging from, each \$5c. to \$1.
JARDINIERS. Regular value 75c. and 50c. Each 25c.	

CALL RIGHT AWAY and see what we have. Delay is fatal. We know our prices cannot be beaten. Give us a chance to convince you.

The Capital Furniture Co., LIMITED
Cor. Fort & Douglas Sts.
BALMORAL BLOCK VICTORIA, B. C. TELEPHONE 633

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE TIMES.

Inexpensive Presents

Handkerchiefs, ladies' face, and embroidered edges, 25 to \$1.50
Ladies' Handkerchiefs in hand-some boxes, six in box \$1.75
Gentlemen's Silk Initial Handkerchiefs \$2.00
Ladies' Gloves (Perrin's), per pair, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50
Perrin's 12-button Gloves, special \$1.75
Lace Cravats, and up \$2.00
Umbrellas for ladies and men, \$1 to \$10
Squaw Bags from 45c to \$1.50
Beaded Bags, and up \$2.50
Children's Purses, and up \$2.00
Cushion Covers, and up \$2.50
Large Cords \$2.00

STORE OPEN EVENINGS.

Wescott Bros.
Quality House
YATES STREET.

44 Beautiful Lots

Two minutes' walk from car line. High, dry, level, no rock. On some of them there are ancient oak trees with a magnificent spread of branches. These are undoubtedly the finest lots in Victoria. They are full size, 60x120 feet each.

We have been instructed to sell en bloc, either 22 of them or the whole 44 at

\$550 Each
Easy Terms
THE
HUGO ROSS REALTY CO. LIMITED
570 YATES ST.
Opp. Bank of B. N. A.
Phone 1400.
Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg.

The Constantly Increasing Sales of

VOONIA TEA

Prove that Quality and Price Are Right.

Order VOONIA next time and you will be delighted with the results.

WHEN DOING
Your Christmas Buying
Don't forget that
The Finest Goods

You Have Ever Seen
ARE ON SHOW AT

REDFERNS, Gov't St.

DIAMOND MERCHANTS AND JEWELLERS.

ONHAND FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

BLUESTONE

For Agricultural Purposes in Any
Quantities

Robert Ward & Co., Ltd.

TEMPLE BUILDING.

VICTORIA.

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING
IS WANTED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

FOR THIS REASON

Buchanan's Popular Scotch Whiskies

ARE ALWAYS IN DEMAND.

They Never Fail to Please the
Taste of the Most Particular.

BUCHANAN'S RED SEAL, per bottle \$1.00
BUCHANAN'S BLACK AND WHITE, per bottle \$1.25
BUCHANAN'S ROYAL HOUSEHOLD, per bottle \$1.50
BUCHANAN'S VERY OLD LIQUEUR, per bottle \$1.75

MAY BE HAD FROM ALL FIRST CLASS DEALERS.

UNITED STATES CROPS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The department of agriculture to-day issued a report giving the final estimates of the acreage, under production and the value of farm crops, showing winter wheat acreage to be 25,132,000; production 409,442,000 bushels; value per bushel, 82.2 cents. Spring wheat, acreage, 17,078,000; production, 224,845,000 bushels; value 86 cents. Corn, acreage, 99,931,000; production, 2,592,320,000; value 51.7 cents. Oats, acreage, 31,870,000; production, 754,443,000; value, 44.3 cents. The average weight per bushel is shown by the reports received by the department to be 56.9 pounds for spring wheat, and 58.9 pounds for winter wheat.

TO CURE SNIFFLING COLDS.

The easiest and pleasantest cure is "Catarrhazone," which kills the nose, throat and lungs with healing balsams and pine essences that kill a cold instantly. You experience a pleasant sensation of relief at once. Soreness, congestion and irritation leave the nose and throat, the head is cleared and every trace of cold or catarrh is cured. Catarrhazone is so sure, so pleasant, such a safe remedy for winter ills that you can't afford to do without it. Sold by all dealers, 25c and \$1.00. Get Catarrhazone to-day.

GREETINGS FROM MOTHERLAND.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 20.—The steamer Empress of Ireland, which arrived last night, brought the largest mail ever sent to Canada, amounting to 2,102 bags and 1,179 packages.

FREE to the RUPTURED
A Quick New Cure

I have made new and important discoveries in the cure of Rupture and for the next 30 days I will give every ruptured person who follows these directions a chance to try this remarkable Home Cure, FREE. Mark on the diagram the location of the rupture. Answer the questions and mail this to DR. W. S. RICE, 852 Main Street, Adams, N. Y.

Age _____ Time Ruptured _____
Name _____
Address _____
This medicine must be used _____ Do you wear a Truss? _____

Whitehead, Sask., Dec. 20.—Toussaint Louvet, a young man lately arrived from France, met with a fatal accident here yesterday. He was drawing a loaded gun out of a sleigh by the muzzle when the trigger caught. Louvet received the charge in the body. The young man, who was only 17 years of age, lived only half an hour after the accident.

**TYEE SMELTER
CLOSED DOWN**

**SHORTAGE OF ORE
CAUSE OF STOPPAGE**

Cessation of Work Only Temporary
—Spring Will See Plant
Doubled in Capacity

Ladysmith, Dec. 20.—The Christmas at Ladysmith promises to be rather dull from a business point of view. Primarily, of course, the town is a mining camp, dependent for its existence and prosperity upon the mines at Extension. But it has always derived considerable assistance and profit from the neighboring logging camps and smelter industries. The lumber business has now been at a standstill for some weeks and the local shingle mill, operated by the Ladysmith Lumber Company, has also been closed down tight. A large number of men were thus thrown out of employment and a considerable portion of the town's revenue cut off.

Tyee Suspends.
This week also the Tyee smelter has temporarily suspended operations. The fires are out, and the great majority of the employees are out of work for an indefinite period. Shortage of ore is the main cause of the stoppage, and this again is directly traceable to the stringency in the American money market. It is not thought that the smelter will be idle for long, but meanwhile the town is experiencing the effects of the general industrial depression.

Mines Busy.
Fortunately the mines are working steadily, and both the smelter and lumber companies are making ready for more prosperous times. The lumber company is taking advantage of the mill being closed to increase the capacity of its drying kilns. Mr. D. Nicholson, a local contractor, is busy now with the erection of another kiln which will almost double the storage capacity of the mill, from which it may be readily inferred that the company is anticipating another prosperous period of trade.

Enlarging Plant.
Even greater improvements are in progress at the smelter. The trestle from the new ore bunkers erected beside the engine sheds, to the spit is now practically finished. The wharf has yet to be built out into the bay, but at present it is impossible to proceed with this work owing to the fact that piles cannot be obtained. The hoists for the holding engines, by which the ore are to be hauled from the slip, along the wharf and up the trestle to the bunkers is also almost finished and the boiler and part of the machinery are lying round ready to be put in. The new bunkers are practically completed, and the ground has been cleared and graded over beside the present coke dump for the erection of a second set of bunkers. The spring should see the completion of the whole business and the smelter duplicated in power and capacity, in full blast.

Civic Elections.
The city council had a very short session Monday evening, and there was no business of any importance transacted. It does not appear probable that there will be any excitement over the approaching municipal elections. There has been some talk of holding a public meeting, but so far no action has been taken. The present council has come in for considerable criticism, but its critics are meanwhile fighting shy of office themselves. No new nominees for aldermanic honors have been mentioned; and so far not a single aspirant for the mayoralty has announced himself. It really looks as if a citizens' search party will have to be organized to go out and hunt for councillors.

Wharf Repaired.
The provincial wharf which fell into grievous disrepair as the result of the ravages of the toro, has been fixed up for traffic again. The work which was entrusted to D. Nicholson, a former mayor of the city, would have been completed weeks ago, had it been possible to obtain piles. So soon as the material arrived, the work was rushed and the wharf is again open for vehicular traffic.

Rock Throwing Prohibited.
Some person, or persons, possessed of an insane idea of a joke, is taking advantage of the darkness of the city to throw rocks through the windows of peaceable residents. The depredations started at the Bank of Commerce, where about a week ago a rock was hurled sheer through the plate glass window. Since then, Pogorly's boarding house on Buller street has been thrice visited, and on each occasion a rock has been banged through the window. A cabin back of J. Gould's store has suffered similarly, and Snedden's candy store was treated in the same fashion, the rock on this occasion canonizing off Mr. Snedden's head. All efforts to trace the perpetrators of these malicious outrages have so far proved abortive.

Association Football.
Ladysmith football enthusiasts are highly satisfied with the home fixtures assigned to them at the schedule meeting of the Vancouver Island Football Association. On the suggestion of President Brown it was decided to play two trial games with picked teams, so that the very best possible eleven could be sent on to the field against the Mainland representatives. The first of these games it was agreed should be played at Ladysmith on February 8th. The final of the Island and Mainland games is also to be played here on April 4th, and it is expected that at least one of the games in the Canadian championship series will also be played on the new sports grounds here sometime in April.

The local eleven trounced the Vancouver Celtics at Nanaimo on Sunday just as easily as they did the Nationals here a month ago. It was a better

Dainty Neckwear
for Christmas
Gifts

CAMPBELL'S

Beautiful Belts
and Furs for
Christmas Gifts

Christmas Carol

IRRESISTIBLE JOYBELLS ARE RINGING! Even the bewitching finery in our windows echoes the glad sound. See those perfect-fitting, flawless Gloves, bespeaking a joyful welcome from the daintiest of hands; look at the wealth of exquisite lace, deftly fashioned into Bretelle, Fichu and Jabot—destined to give joy to the recipient of your gift; rich Opera Cloaks; bewildering quantities of Dainty Kerchiefs—decked with real lace or quaint embroidery; fascinating silks in Modish Blouse or Skirt; beautiful Belts—their mission only half accomplished—ALL are echoing the joybells of Yuletide. All are marked in plain figures which tell how much happiness can be distributed at such little cost.



**"Reputable Gloves
that stand the Test"**

Dent's Ladies' Special \$1.00
"The Warwick" Glove \$1.25
The "Maggioli" Glove \$1.50
Genuine Mocha Gloves \$1.50
Dent's "Pique" Gauntlet \$2.50
Fowne's Suede Gauntlet \$2.75
Evening Gloves, all shades, all sizes.
MISSIE'S and CHILDREN'S GLOVES
IN GREAT PROFUSION.

Dainty Neckwear

Lace Bretelles, from \$7.50 down to \$1.25
New Lace Fichus, from \$1.75
Dainty Lace Kimonos, from \$2.50
Lace Scarves, choice designs, from 25c
Puritan Collars, in lace, etc., from 15c
The New Lace Rabats, from 50c
Fashionable Lace Jabots, from 75c
Real Spanish Lace Scarves \$2.75
Chiffon Lace Scarves, from 25c
Lace Collars, from 10c.



FEATHER BOAS.

Gift Handkerchiefs

OUR HANDKERCHIEFS have created wide-spread admiration; the cause is simple—they consist entirely of new designs and dainty materials, at prices lower than ordinary.

New, narrow colored border, spot and check centre 10c.
Very pretty white embroidered, each 10c.
Sheer linen, extremely modish, each 15c.
Beautifully embroidered handkerchiefs, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, 90c, \$1 and \$1.25
Very Dainty REAL lace edge handkerchiefs, at 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50
Exquisite REAL lace handkerchiefs, most beautiful and most dainty, prices from \$1.75

Beautiful Belts

OUR MATCHLESS BELTS in leather, silk, elastic, tinsel and the new fashionable mat work, are exquisite productions which cost no more than you pay for ordinary belts elsewhere. Either for personal use or as a gift, they are bound to give the utmost satisfaction, because they are undoubtedly the very latest and most handsome belts procurable.

OUR PRICES ARE

35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and up



Shopping Bags

The Finest and Most Fashionable Assortment ever offered in Victoria, in all the latest materials and most fashionable shapes; large useful bags, small ornamental bags and intermediate sizes.

Prices, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25, and up



Hair Combs

THE SPLENDID ASSORTMENT of ladies' and misses' hair combs we are showing this Xmas-tide combines the pick of London, Paris and New York hair ornaments; they were all specially selected and are offered to you at most reasonable prices, 50c, 90c, \$1.00, \$1.25, and up to \$6.75.

**UNIQUE
UMBRELLAS at
Bargain Prices**

**COSTUME
CREATIONS**

**FASHIONABLE
COATS**

**SILK UNDER-
SKIRTS**

**EVENING
GOWNS**

OPERA CLOAKS

Children's Coats and Party Frocks



Babies' Bibs, Gaiters, Jackets, Boots, Etc.

NEW MOTOR SCARVES

FASCINATING FANS

MUSLIN BLOUSES

SILK BLOUSES

LACE BLOUSES

NET BLOUSES

FANCY HOSIERY

ANGUS CAMPBELL & CO.

The Ladies' Store

Promis Block, Government St., Victoria

Handkerchiefs
for Christmas
Gifts

Gloves for
Christmas
Gifts

GENTLEMEN'S GIFT

SUGGESTIONS

SUSPENDERS in handsome boxes, 75c. to \$2.50

INITIAL SILK AND LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, 25c. to 75c.

COLORS LINDEN AND SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, 75c. and \$1.00

Very Newest Parisian Designs.

ENGLISH MOTOR GLOVES, per pair \$3.50

DENT'S FAMOUS GLOVES, per pair, \$1 to \$2.50

NECKWEAR, 50c. to \$2.50

All the popular shades and new color harmonies.

DO NOT FORGET - OUR MERCHANDISE AND GLOVE CERTIFICATES.

SEA & GOWEN'S

The Gentlemen's Store

64 Government St.

Victoria, B. C.

GUN VICTIM.

Whitehead, Sask., Dec. 20.—Toussaint Louvet, a young man lately arrived from France, met with a fatal accident here yesterday. He was drawing a loaded gun out of a sleigh by the muzzle when the trigger caught. Louvet received the charge in the body. The young man, who was only 17 years of age, lived only half an hour after the accident.

and a faster game, but the locals turned the trick by three goals to one, and ought to have done better.

On Sunday the Hearts and Shamrocks will play a league game for the benefit of Ed. Leahy, who was hurt on the field over a month ago. Leahy has always been a popular sport and was the most promising goalkeeper in town.

Wedding To-morrow.
There is to be a wedding in the Anglican church here on Sunday-morning at 8 o'clock, when J. Ganner Jacobson and Miss Susie Morgan are to be married. Both the young people are well known in town.

Social Doings.
Rev. Mr. Heath went down to Victoria on Wednesday, returning the next day.

Mrs. Watson paid a visit to Victoria during the week.

D. Nicholson was down in Victoria on business during the week.

Mrs. S. Weaving and daughter went up to Nanaimo on Wednesday, returning on Thursday.

J. G. Brown, of Victoria, was in town on Wednesday evening.

E. Whyte, of Victoria, was in town on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. John Gillman paid a flying visit to Nanaimo on Wednesday afternoon.

CASE OF REV. DR. WORKMAN.

Appeal of Deposed Professor of Wesleyan College is Dismissed.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The court of appeals of the Methodist church of Canada has dismissed the appeal of the Rev. Dr. Workman, the deposed professor of the Wesleyan Theological College of Montreal, on the ground that the board of governors of that college has jurisdiction to appoint professors and to determine engagements on any grounds that may seem to them sufficient, provided that the action is in harmony with the law of the land. The court also decided that any expression of opinion on the part of the board of governors as to the professor's

theological views have no legal effect upon his ministerial standing, which can be affected only by proceedings taken as provided in the discipline of the church.

CONCILIATION BOARD.

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 20.—The first conciliation board met in Edmonton to settle a dispute last night between the Strathcona Coal Company and the miners. By the new agreement the miners get eight hours a day and ten cents increase in wages. The board consisted of H. Montgomery of Edmonton, chairman; F. Oliver, of Edmonton, representing the Strathcona Coal Company; and H. Sherman, representing the Miners' Union.

1

OUR LONDON LETTER

London, November 20.—The discussion which has taken place in the press both for and against the continuation of the position of Censor of Plays, can now end. The play about which the trouble arose "Waste," has been performed privately by the State Society, and although it is a powerful one, the opinion of the majority of the critics is that the action of the Censor was justified. In some scenes the piece is unduly tedious and didactic, but its chief virtue and the questions which it raises are hardly fit for production on the stage. Of course some of the critics do not agree with this view and contend that the censor's decision was entirely wrong in refusing to allow the piece to be produced publicly. Certain it is that some of the situations are decidedly unwholesome, and might well be dispensed with. Of course the dialogue is brilliant in the extreme, and Mr. Barker is to be complimented on his knowledge of human nature, as portrayed by him, but the performance of "Waste" has destroyed the case which the dramatic authors were going to present to the prime minister.

Cross Channel Airship Trip.
It is announced that M. Deutch de la Meurthe will cross the channel in his airship "La Ville de Paris" proceeding direct to Aldershot. He proposes to cover the distance between Paris and Aldershot in six hours. Great interest naturally will be attached to this trip, as if successful, it will be of great importance as being the first time an airship has crossed the channel or made such a long voyage. The ship will have to be housed in Aldershot, as owing to its great size it could not be put up any place else. Before his return to France, Monsieur de la Meurthe intends to sail around London when "La Ville de Paris" will have an opportunity of comparing his airship with our own "Null Secundus."

To Cut Cullinan Diamond.
The Cullinan diamond which was presented to the King on November 9th by the people of the Transvaal is about to be cut. Arrangements are already being made to carry this into effect, and some discussion has taken place as to whether the diamond should be sent to Amsterdam to be cut there, or whether the work should be entrusted to London cutters. It is said that a powerful syndicate, some of whose members have a great deal of influence in court circles are bringing pressure to bear to secure the work for Amsterdam. For patriotic reasons alone, the diamond ought to be retained in England, as the work can be done as efficiently and probably almost as cheaply in London as in Holland. As a matter of fact it is said that diamond cutting is as fine, if not finer, in London than elsewhere. This is the view expressed by an expert who hoped that the King would be approached on the subject. No doubt His Majesty would be graciously pleased to order that the work might be done by his loyal subjects in London. Moreover, a slight word to be put on British soil, if the order was sent to Holland, probably the huge diamond will be cut in three or four stones of 1,000 carats, and two stones of 80 carats each.

Jeanne d'Arc "Never Burned"
A rather extraordinary story comes from Paris of the claim of an Englishman to search for a hidden box beneath the wall of the Jeanne d'Arc Tower at Rouen. This man, an artist by profession, states that one of his ancestors was Mayor of Rouen at the time of the English conquest of Normandy, and it was this Mayor who placed the mysterious documents in their hiding place in the wall. It appears that on the stone which is to be removed the English word "open" is supposed to have been carved. Anyhow "en" has been found, but the first search has not been successful. In the documents of the period no mention whatever is made of the said Mayor who was named "Arceus." The most extraordinary part of the story is that this claimant says that Jeanne d'Arc was never burned, and never even brought to the stake, but that it was the Duchess of Worcester who suffered death. It is probable that in the course of this week definite authority will be given Mr. d'Arce to pursue his search.

B.C. Exhibits Easily First.
A show of British and Colonial Fruit took place this week at the Horticultural Hall, and was very well attended. This annual show is looked forward to



So little Ho from Japan—
And Sambo sunny little man—
And Jean Baptiste Courtois—
And "Arry" little Englishman—
And Mary with her sweetheart Dan—
And Georgie sure but slow.

All gather in a merry ring
And as they march about they sing
Of Soap of "Baby's Own."
And hand in hand, thus you see
In this one thing they all agree
It is the best that's known.

"Oh! Baby's Own Soap"
Is the very best soap
For everyone, tan, black or white
Our mothers all buy it,
And none can deny it
At Baby's Own Soap is all right.

UMBRELLAS

The choiceness of our Umbrella stock is creating a growing demand for them as Christmas gifts to either lady or gentleman. Not only are the handles exclusively designed in gold, silver, gunmetal and pearl, but the coverings in every case are of the best quality silk upon frames strong and rigid. Prices from \$5 to \$15.

THE J. M. WHITNEY CO. JEWELLERS
1605 GOVERNMENT ST.

chance of finding work in the Canadian cities. He found that the opposite plan had led to great suffering. In every case he recommended that immigrants should be directed to some reliable agent in whom confidence could be placed, who would be responsible for the welfare of those in his charge until work had been obtained for them, and would receive money on account of repayment for expenses incurred in their removal from the Old Country. As far as possible he urged settlers to go out West, where he opined that there was plenty of room for real hard workers, and young people of both sexes. Women were badly wanted in Canada, he was told. But above all he wished to impress on those anxious to emigrate that Canada is not a place for "kid-gloved persons." He was very pleased to note that women do not visit public houses there, and that these places are closed from seven on Saturday evening until Monday morning. He paid a high tribute to the hospitality and loyalty of the Canadians, dwelling on their affection for the Old Country.

MUSIC HALL RECORD.

Marie Dressler, an American. Drawing \$2,500 a Week in London.

A new record in salaries paid to music hall performers in London has been established by an American. Marie Dressler is appearing at the Palace and receiving \$2,500 every week for telling a few stories, singing a few songs and dancing a bit. This is said to be the highest salary ever paid a music hall performer in London.

The other music hall performers are wondering what the result of Miss Dressler's invasion of London will be. The other performers are wondering if it will not be the means of raising the standard of salaries, which is so much lower in England than in the United States.

Miss Dressler is proving a rather paying investment for the Palace. This is her first professional visit to England, and she is making a host of friends. Her work is so thoroughly new to London that everyone seems to enjoy it.

THE GOOD LUCK IN HORSESHOES.

One of the oldest of superstitions is the belief that associates good fortune with the horseshoe. It is a prevalent idea not only among English-speaking people, but among all the races of Europe and Southern Asia. There is doubt among antiquarians whether the good luck comes from the shape or material from which the shoe is made.

The ancients believed that iron, as a metal, had great secret powers, and they drove nails into the walls of their houses to keep the evil spirits away. The Arabs, when overtaken by severe storms in the desert, will cry out, "From, from!" which they think will propitiate the evil spirits which have been raised by the storm. The Scandinavians have held the idea for centuries that it was great luck to find a bit of iron.

Among the ancients the form of the horseshoe was no doubt much favored as having lucky or preserving powers. Ornaments were shaped in this crescent form to drive away the evil spirits. The Chinese build their tombs in this form, and the Moors use it in their architecture.

In the mythology of Europe horses have always been considered bearers of luck, and there was a superstition which once was current that the presence of a horse's hoof under the bed would cure certain complaints.

Heaviness, Lassitude,
Drowsy and Dull.

DO YOU FEEL THAT WAY?

How provoking these symptoms are! You sleep well but when you awaken there is none of the exhilaration that sleep and rest should confer. Instead of being alert, having quickness of apprehension, there is languor, dullness, a disinclination to do things.

Three causes for this feeling. Lax liver, lax kidneys, and a mighty lazy stomach which does its work very poorly and compels the other organs to do things they are unequal to for any length of time. Note the consequence—blood is filled with wastes—poisons weigh down the nervous system—rebuilding processes are absolutely stopped.

You'll note an instant change when you take Ferrazone.

Appetite improves, digestion becomes good as ever—skin grows ruddy and clear, all sense of languor, unsteadiness and depression fades away and finally disappears.

Ferrazone clarifies the brain, supplies tone and vigor, imparts clearness and strength. You feel like a new person, full of life, full of ambition, ready to do things and able to do them also.



PRACTICAL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

A Few Excellent Suggestions

A FANCY VEST, A SUIT,
A DRESS VEST, A RAIN COAT,
A DRESS SUIT, AN OVERCOAT,
A TUXEDO COAT, A PAIR OF TROUSERS,
AN UMBRELLA, A DRESSING GOWN,
A SMOKING JACKET.

Fit-Reform

1201 GOVT. ST.

ALLEN & COMPANY

VICTORIA, B.C.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER FOR TWO DAYS

We have still Two Pianos left from our December sale, and these must go. To this end, we are prepared to make the following

EXTRAORDINARY OFFER

One Perfectly New Piano, regular price \$350. We will sell for \$225 Spot Cash. One slightly used Piano, original price \$375, also for \$225, Spot Cash. This is absolutely the best value for money offering in Victoria right now.

Our New Neophone

Has met with instantaneous success: all hearers have been entranced with its clearness and softness of tone. The usual grating harshness, common to the Ordinary Talking Machine, has been entirely eliminated. Furthermore, the Prices are alright.

LET US DEMONSTRATE THESE POINTS TO YOU

HICKS & LOVICK PIANO CO.

LIMITED

1204 DOUGLAS STREET
VERNON BLOCK.

MUSK FOR TYPHOID FEVER.

Musk is known to the average person merely as the basic principle of certain perfumes. Even to many medical men a knowledge of its qualities does not extend beyond this fact, yet Crookshank, of London, has recently demonstrated conclusively that it is an unrivaled remedy in the treatment of typhoid fever and diphtheria and is invaluable as a stimulating tonic for the brain, acting as it does when conveyed by the blood stream with a powerful invigorating effect on the nerve cells of the lower brain.

Though it would prove a boon to brain-workers or anyone suffering at any time from brain fog, its great cost will prevent a general use of it, for its action is transitory and the doses must be large and frequent in order to have the desired effect.

The musk used in the western world comes direct from China, and is usually shipped to England, whence it is distributed to other civilized countries. The grains of musk are contained in a pod or husk. In preparing the musk for commercial and medical uses the pods are cut with scissors and the grains shaken out, after which the pod is stretched and scraped with a fine knife.

It is only the first grade of musk that is valuable as a medicine, and its value is vastly greater than that of gold, for its export price is \$25 a dram.

ward substitution is one of the hardest things to guard against. In cases where it is used as a stimulant for a tired brain the dose is five grains every two hours, and in most instances not less than three or four doses are necessary before the desired result is produced, a complete invigoration, though its beneficial results will be noticeable from the first administration. As there are 60 grains in a dram, each dose of this valuable medicine is worth a trifle over \$2, but those who have taken it aver that it is worth ten times that much for its splendid effect on the brain cells.

ANOTHER PORTLAND CLAIM.

Another claimant for the estate of the Duke of Portland has appeared in the person of Mr. Walter S. Calkins, a business man of Milville, New Jersey. Mr. Calkins says his father placed his case in the hands of Mr. J. P. Benjamin, the well-known Anglo-American lawyer and Q.C., in 1870, but while Mr. Benjamin was collecting his evidence Mr. Calkins died, and the case was dropped.

The claims are based upon the assertion that a hundred years ago the eldest son of the Duke of Portland of that time settled in America under the name of John Barker. He made no move to assume his rights himself, but left a defence which has been guarded by his descendants as to the noble family from which he sprang.

The Chinese firecracker industry continues to grow despite the fact that firecrackers are made in great quantities in other countries.

XMAS GOODS

WARD'S SAFETY RAZORS. IXL CARVING SETS.
CURLY IDEAL SAFETY RAZORS. IXL POCKET CUTLERY.
WHITTL'S RAZOR STROPS. BOKER'S POCKET CUTLERY.
IXL TABLE CUTLERY.

ALL IN GREAT VARIETY AND AT RIGHT PRICES.

E. G. PRIOR & CO.,

Limited Liability.

Cor. Government and Johnson Sts. Victoria, B. C.

Xmas Plants and Flowers

MAGNIFICENT CYCLAMEN, SWEET STEVIA,
SWELL POINSETTIAS, CAENATIONS, FRAGRANT FREESIAS, CHRYSANTHEMUMS.
COURTESY AND ATTENTION AT

Flewin's Greenhouses, Park Rd.



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

THE GREAT SEARCH.

The International Sunday School Lesson for December 22 is: "A Christmas Lesson," Matt. 2: 1-12.

By William T. Ellis.

And still they come from the East. To-day's continuance quest of the Wise Men from the East is one of the phenomena of the twentieth century. This sweet old Christmas story of the Magi with its unending fragrance was never so timely as now. Even the cabinets and councils of government are alert to the truth that out of the East there is coming to the West a great search for unknown best things. The Orient is definitely asking that its students may come to the occidental nations to learn the western civilization. Such an opportunity to give back to the East what the Wise Men found in Bethlehem, has never before been presented to Christendom.

All over the land there has been an extraordinary exhibition of a determination to make this Christmas, one marked by the true spirit of the occasion. Newspapers are urging the public to show consideration for the workers in stores by doing their shopping early. Sunday schools are agitating for a "giving Christmas," whereby the members of the school, instead of receiving gifts themselves, bring offerings for the poor. The idea of Christmas as a missionary festival has taken deep hold upon many churches; this day is characterized by God's great sending from above, and by man's great seeking below. Now it is that Christendom is most intent upon bringing heathendom to the place where the Saviour may be found.

Ever After the Supreme Good. While they do not figure conspicuously in the public prints, the truly seekers are yet the heaven of life. The honor which history has bestowed upon the journeying Wise Men should be shared with all who, following in their train, pursue the goal of truth. From the high-browed savants of science, who foregather for abstruse of deep-eyed seekers after spiritual enlightenment; all who are devoted to the pursuit of truth should be regarded as belonging in the company of the three Wise Men.

Savagery sits still, satisfied with itself; civilization is ever seeking the highest good. This endless quest is the vindication of Christian civilization. Its "divine discontent" is the proof of its progress. So long as God dwells with men, men will pursue the ideal of a loftier life than they have yet known. It is the wise who seek; the Three demonstrated the wisdom they already possessed by their search for the supreme good. So it is the righteous who constantly covet greater holiness.

Finding the Babe. Some observers think that the whole world to-day is going daft over pseudo metaphysical religions. There is no need to worry. The modern "isms" and "sciences" and "thoughts" are making more noise than their real importance warrants; they are social rather than intellectual symptoms. Only shallow thinkers accept the jargon of these so-called philosophies as ultimate. As I have read them I have recalled the book of magic which I picked up in a Port Said book store, a mere jangle of incomprehensible and unrelated terms. For it is in a life, that real wisdom is to be found. God incarnates His greatest truths in personality. Therefore the Wise Men, being wise, were not surprised to find themselves confronted by a babe, and that, too, in lowly station. Because they were great of mind, they had risen above any concern for the adventitious trappings of life; they could scorn Herod on his throne, and make their royal gift to the Bethlehem Babe, in all His lowliness.

A babe is the embodiment of possibility. The infant we dandle in our arms may be the future great hero or great villain. An imaginative person is awed and made reverent in the presence of a little child; so all infancy shares the royalty of the Babe who was the end of the Wise Men's search. Even as God, freshens all life, keeping it from becoming stale, faded and hopeless, by sending it babyhood, so this old world is revived by the advent of the eternally contemporaneous Child of the Manger.

When We Meet the Best. If those three Oriental sages are now, as we believe they are, where they can look down on this present world, beholding the innumerable company who have followed in their train, they assuredly regard as the most tragic passage in the unfolding human drama, the failure of men and women to live up to their noblest impulses, to obey their highest ideals, to follow their "gleam," as Tennyson calls it. There is no other failure to equal this. Many a man has died worth millions, knowing his life to have missed the mark, because he had not dared to be true to the loftiest truth he had known.

Herein lies the great temptation and danger of the mass of people who sit, week after week, under the teaching of great truths. They see a star, but fail to follow it. Having a vision, they do not translate it into life. Called to grander, worthier life, they



WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

sit supine in their former smallness. To all such comes the summons of the Wise Men:

After it, follow it.

Follow your gleam.

The secret of glorious life consists in being steadily true to the best that one has within one's power to know.

Stars and False Lights.

There are those who seem to think that God's guiding stars faded from His sky when He had revealed the Bethlehem home of the Magi. One of the deep truths of the Christian faith is that God still guides. He will not leave any seeking soul in darkness. Sometimes His stars are compelling providences. Sometimes they are simply His revealed will as found in the pages of inspiration. Sometimes they are our intuition the inner light, which amounts to a compulsion. Whatever form they take, God's stars are bound to break through the darkest night of perplexity and doubt.

There are many luring lights on the horizon of our time that are false; but God's stars also shine. It has been in inspiration to me of late weeks, to see large bodies of strong men, with a new light of purpose in their faces, rising up to follow the light of duty which they have been shown. This has been in connection with the extraordinary movement of laymen to send the sufficient gospel, in adequate fashion, to all the needy peoples of the earth. So manifestly has this been God's leading that the Christian men of about a dozen cities in Canada and the United States have, within two months, pledged themselves to add in the neighborhood of a million dollars to their missionary gifts. Thus they express their determination to go where God leads.

While Christendom is thus bearing the Christian life out to the groping regions of the earth, the East is consciously and unconsciously reaching out for the best which the West has to give. Its search is not so deliberate and determined as that of the ancient sages from the East, but nevertheless it will not be satisfied until it finds Him who is the Way and the Truth, and the Life.

Star Beams.

To follow God's leading is to find a Christmas.

The highest wisdom is to live for the highest.

A great goal is worth a hard journey. It is only the noble impulses which are followed that ennoble life.

The Christ is to be found at the end of every star-path.

No lot is so narrow that it does not open upward to where God's beckoning stars shine.

Kingliness is not of condition, but of character.

Only by daring to accept the new can men be loyal to the true.

Christmas stands for a life, rather than for a season.

No gift is so useless as the best. A little wisdom finds its best employment in the search for greater wisdom.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

THE SEASON OF SINGING.

Terse Comments on the Uniform Prayer Meeting Topic of the Young People's Societies—Christian Endeavor, Baptist Young People's Union, Epworth League, etc.—for December 22nd is, "The Magnificent: A Christmas Song." Luke 1:46-55.

By William T. Ellis.

Christmas began in a burst of song. Wherever the Christmas spirit goes, there also should go sweet hymns of glory to God in the highest.

The Son of God among the sons of men; Divinely cradled in earth's manger; the Perfect One sharing the burdens of our imperfect life; that he might feel every bit of the pressure that weighs down upon mankind—that is one of the glorious truths of the Christmas season.

The little things of to-day may be the great things of to-morrow. A Bethlehem khan was once large enough to hold all of Christianity. Thirty-three years later the entire Church of Christ could

be gathered into one upper room. To-day that same church covers the earth.

The sanctity of childhood and the glory of motherhood are messages of the Christmas morn.

"Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!" that is the refrain of the Christmas bells. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus; for he shall save His people from their sins." The central truth of Christmas is the truth of redemption. This is the day of days because it brought to a world that deserved death the fullness of life and peace.

Christmas exalts Christ. Its greatest truth is the incarnation. God in man—God revealed to us—is the first message of this day of days. Jesus, the image of the invisible God, the Father's best expression of Himself to all His children, is the centre of Christmas. This great day falls of its mission if it does not give us new love and devotion to the personal Christ, the Son of God.

Religion is not an austere thing. It is all joy the moment we hear the Christmas angels chorusing until we swing into glory to the music of the redeemed throng about the throne. The service of Christ is gladness and peace. He means that His every disciple should live in a perpetual Christmas.

Our King is worthy of our best gifts—that is the wise men's Christmas message.

There was light for all the world in the shining of the Christmas star. Christ's coming was not merely into the Holy Land. He came into all the world. True, much of His coming must be on the feet of His disciples, but that is part of the Christmas message. The greatest truth of this day is a missionary truth.

Peace prevails where the Christmas spirit rules.

Christmas is the children's day. And how it has transformed childhood wherever it is celebrated. We hear echoing through the Christmas songs the Saviour's "Suffer all little children,"

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS.

Love not only occupies the highest lobes of the brain, but crowds out the lower to make room for its expansion.

He enjoys much who is thankful for little.—Seeker.

A feeble dwarf, dauntlessly resolved will turn the tide of battle, And rally to a nobler strife the giants that have fled.

We don't want the faith that comes by seeing, but the seeing that comes by faith.—John McNeill.

It is only persons of firmness that can have real gentleness.—Rochefoucauld.

My bark is wanted to the strand By breath divine, And on the helm there rests a hand Other than mine.

The noblest motive is the public good.—Virgil.

TURKISH TOM THUMB.

There is appearing at the South London music hall the jolliest and funniest man-kin seen in England since the days of General Tom Thumb, of Yankee fame. His name is Pasha Hayati Hamid, and he was born in Salonika some fifty years ago.

To-day, by an inexplicable freak of Mother Nature, he looks exactly in stature what he was when born. He is thirty inches in height and weighs thirty-four pounds.

The little Pasha was rehearsing his part when seen last evening by a press representative. Standing on a table in the centre of his dressing room, he was being coached in the art of dramatic expression and mimicry by his impresario, Mr. Lloyd Forsyth. And it was amazing to see how quickly he assimilated the lesson.

"I wasn't born yesterday," he remarked, with a twinkle in his tiny eyes. "You know I speak seven languages, and by next week I hope to be able to speak and sing in George Robey's own language. If a man who knows two languages is worth two men, then I shall be worth sixteen—all put together."

"What that good artist!" he added, in a quaint comic falsetto. Speaking all the time in French, and assuming a graver mood, Hayati Hamid confided his opinion that Turkey, the land of his birth, was a delightful country in every respect—except to live in. A brother of his had been poisoned under quite typically Oriental circumstances, and he himself had for eleven years been an attendant in the harem at Yildiz. He was subsequently appointed a member of the suite of the Grand Vizier, who, at his death three years ago, left him an allowance of 1500 francs a year. His parents, he explained, had eleven other children all quite normal. He was kept at school till he was twenty, and so received a thorough education.

MAGAZINE FOR THE DEAF.

Although the first number of The Albion, a 24-page magazine for the deaf, is now on the streets of London, no newspapers are crying its merits. The magazine is owned by deaf men and women, conducted by a deaf mute editor, written by deaf writers, illustrated by deaf artists and sold by deaf canvassers in the interests of the deaf community. Its editor is Evan Yellon, who has a factory hand and who is self-educated.

"The idea is a new venture," Mr. Yellon said, "and is to provide a special magazine for a special public hitherto neglected by the general press, so far as its particular needs go; to bring into touch and fellowship the great number of deaf men and women in England and Wales."

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The Legend of Santa Claus

Nicholas, the son of Epiphanius and Joanna, was born about the year 300 at Patara, a city in the province of Lycia, in Asia Minor. What St. George is to knightdom Saint Nicholas is to the poor. He is called in Russia, of which country he is patron, the Little Father Nicholas. In Italy, where his remains are supposed to lie at Bari, he is called San Nicola, or San Nicola; he is patron of the coast. In England, in France, and in Germany he is held a great saint, and from the last country comes the name we know him by most familiarly—Santa Claus. As Santa Claus he has been secularized by us, in Father Christmas; and Father Christmas, with his white beard and venerable garments, is one and the same person with Saint Nicholas, the young, brown, and beardless Bishop of Myra.

His patronage is more extensive than that of any other saint, for he is the protector of children, young poor girls, merchants, scholars, and particularly of sailors. His emblems are three golden balls, which are seen on many shields by him in old stained glass, three purses on a crook, an anchor, a ship, and a tub containing three children.

Now when Nicholas was still a youth his father and mother died, and he was left in possession of great riches. He heard that a certain knight had come upon evil days, and, having no money, was debating sending his three daughters to beg along the highway, that they might get food for themselves and for him. Nicholas started out one night with a purse of gold in his hand, and, coming privily to the knight's house, he looked through the window. There sat the knight, weeping bitterly at the side of his daughters' beds; and they were asleep, all unconscious of their miserable fate. Nicholas dropped his purse in through the window.

Again he came another night, bearing that the knight had dowered his eldest child, and put in a second purse. And he did it a third time; but this time the father was on the lookout for his benefactor, and called upon him to stop and receive his great thanks. So Nicholas did this, and many other works of charity in his city and in other places, and his fame grew and has lived after him.

In memory of this there grew up a custom in Christian countries of giving presents in secret on the Vigil of Saint Nicholas. In Italy it was called the Zepata, which means, in Spanish, a shoe, because the gifts were put into shoes, to surprise people when they should put them on in the morning. In many French convents the boards used to place each her silk stocking at the door of the room of the Mother Abbess, recommending themselves at the same time to Saint Nicholas. And in Germany a boy dressed as a bishop would go round in vestments and mitre and fill the stockings hung up.

This solemnity of the Boy Bishop came to be kept here with much care and ceremony on the feast of Saint Nicholas, to commemorate his youth and his patronage of children. In Salisbury cathedral there is, or was, a monument to one of these boy bishops who died during his term of office.

The same custom was observed in Spain, and in Switzerland, until the end of the eighteenth century. At one of the eighteenth century, the convent of God-placem in England, the convent of God-placem in Oxfordshire, public prayers were said by a little girl dressed as an abbess.

The custom, stopped here first by Henry VIII, and afterwards by Queen Elizabeth, was, in a different form, carried on by the Dutch in America, and became in the end the secularized ceremony we still use here of Santa Claus, a person dressed in Dutch or German winter clothes of the sixteenth century.

Dion Clayton Calthrop in the Christmas Double Number of the Pall Mall Magazine.

TWO CHINESE GIRLS.

My first acquaintance with the Chinese small girl was with her back, as she hurried away on my approach screaming: "Yang Kwei tek lai lao!"

The foreign demon is coming! For outside the mission circle, the small fry of China had been instructed to think the very worst of the foreigners. And such real terror was harder to bear by sympathy than the shouted insults of the mischievous small boys.

After a few years thus, on a country journey over a plain, a little Chinese girl was seen afar alone, weeding a vegetable plot, by the wayside. I feared that she too would take fright at seeing a foreigner, but putting on my sweetest expression of countenance, (I) I walked on, as there was no other way. Arriving where she was, she looked up as if to say something. And when a young lady does that, it is human nature among young men to stop half a second to hear what she has to say. My momentary suspense was relieved. She unbosomed her maiden thoughts.

"The charming 'woman' 'Mr' 'K' 'ho' 'ta' 'so' 'C' 'You're a great big potato'—that means 'Stick-in-the mud' or 'Duffer' (a word I hope you never use or anyone; it is not classical)."—Rev. W. A. Cornaby, in The Young Woman.

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who died during his term of office.

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Eccentric Duke of Portland

All the actors in the great Druce drama are of deep interest at the moment, when public attention is held by one of the most remarkable claims heard in a court of law since the famous Tichborne case. The history of the Portland Dukedom from the days of Hans William Bentinck (father of the first Duke and the Dutch friend of William of Orange, who fought with him at the Battle of the Boyne) down to the present, or sixth Duke, who is descended from a third son of the third holder, and called upon to hear the title on the failure of direct succession, is a story of fascinating interest, but in this article I can only touch upon its most curious details, that of the fifth Duke, about the mystery of whose life, marriage, alleged double existence, and "faked" death the courts are now concerned.

The Ducal Protest.

"Have I not provided for you at enormous expense a clean pathway underground, lighted with gas, too," the eccentric Duke on one occasion indignantly protested to some visitors trespassing at Welbeck Abbey, "and you will persist in walking above ground?" Here we have, perhaps, one of the reasons for the construction of, at least, some of the extraordinary and wonderful tunnels with which he perforated the estate in every direction, tunnels that even to-day excite the astonishment and admiration of visitors because of their completeness and extent. The Duke, it is told, desired to withdraw himself altogether from public gaze, and he decided on closing such rights of way as existed over the estate. This was not easy, as he found himself involved in legal squabbles, so he met the difficulty by devising the idea of the underground tunnels.

Halls of Splendor.

It does not appear to have occurred to him that visitors should prefer the sunshine, the magnificent woodland scenery, and the sweet, scent-laden air that wafts over the famous retreat of the "Pauvrement" monks, who were banished by Henry VIII. to the long, subterranean, gaseous passages, but they did—such is the perversity of human nature! There are miles of tunnels, one alone is nearly a mile and a half in length, extending towards Worktop, while others run in various directions. There are many apartments, besides the famous ballroom where only a few weeks ago, a great ball, given by the Duke's only daughter, Lady Victoria Alexandra Violet Bentinck, was honored by the presence of the King and Queen of Spain. Other apartments, under ground, are lighted with bull-eyes at the top, a riding school, with a gallop of 1,270 feet, a

library, a church, and great wine cellars.

The Tramps' El Dorado.

All this cost money, but the eccentric Duke had money to burn, as the saying has it, and it was his particular whim to spend about \$500,000 a year in the development of the place. For all sorts of artisans as well as for all conditions of tramps that happened along Welbeck was a veritable gold mine, a sort of El Dorado at home, for a quarter of a century. The place has been compared to a huge yard, as of a contractor engaged in the building of a large village or town. The Duke enjoyed all this buzz of machinery, this hum of hammer and babel of workmen's voices, and any wayfarer had only to drop in to Welbeck and he was immediately put upon the staff, which totalled 1,500, and the market value given for his labor. In the room or picture gallery are scattered various treasures of art and vertu, including the chalice from which Charles I. received communion on "the day in which he was murdered," as it is inscribed, autograph letters from the Stuarts and one from Mary Queen of Scots, signed "Your very good friend," and a portrait of Adelaide Kemble, Fanny Kemble's sister, with whom the Duke is said to have been in love in early manhood.

Like Pantomime Trap-Doors.

One of the mysteries of the tunnels is that it was no uncommon thing for the Duke to rise up suddenly through a trap-door and appear in the midst of a gang of workmen when they might be idling, or backbiting their master, and in the case at present being tried it so ought to show that this idea was also worked out to a small extent in connection with the Baker Street Bazaar owned by T. C. Druce, the Duke's alleged alter ego. His Grace purchased donkeys for his workmen to ride to and from their work, and they made a grotesque procession. On one occasion the rain or shine thought their rich employer could be "bled" for more, so they struck work. "You can strike as long as you like," he said, "it doesn't matter to me if the work is never done." It cooled them, and there was no more striking.

The "Invisible Prince."

All his communications with his employees were written. He was the "Invisible Prince." It is said he withdrew from the society of his peers because of leprosy, that he had an incurable skin disease, that his love affairs having gone wrong he became a woman hater, and, indeed, a hater of mankind in general. His bedstead was an immense square erection with large doors, and so arranged that when folded it was impossible to tell whether the bed was occupied or not. He used to ride alone in a special cage, constructed to secure absolute privacy. He could see through spy-holes, but the curious outside world could not penetrate the enigma of the house-like vehicle. His postillon were often oblivious that he was in his carriage when it was being driven from Welbeck to Harcourt House, Cavendish square, London—a long journey under the old conditions—and on one such trip they had many stops for refreshments at wayside inns, becoming longer as the belief grew that the Duke was not a passenger, until at length a sepulchral voice from within was heard to shout: "What the d— are you stopping for? Needless to say, there were no further stoppages."

Immense Glass Screen.

Harcourt House, which came into the Portland family the time of the third Duke, having been gambled away at a card-party, was also subjected to freaks of building. The garden was enclosed with a gigantic screen of ground-glass, extending 200 feet on each side, and 80 feet high, to prevent neighboring residents catching a glimpse of its nobleman when taking his walks in the garden. The site of this garden now belongs to the postoffice authorities. It was said, on the other hand, that music irritated him, but then in the Druce case Mrs. Hamilton's testimony is that Druce (or the Duke) was extremely fond of music, and that she and her father often played to him for hours at a time. Moreover, it is claimed that the workman had a hand at Welbeck, which often performed at the Abbey.

Many Peculiarities.

The "Prince of Silence" had many other peculiarities. He wore a wig only when from home; he had his trousers tied round the legs; he forbade persons to touch their hats to him; and he would not handle coins until they had been washed. His annual newspaper bill came to \$4,500, and the collection of current literature of this kind at Welbeck is believed to be the largest outside the British Museum. There are

about fifty lodges in various parts of the estate for the occupancy of gardeners and keepers. In conducting his farm operations, he was not to be beaten by the vagaries of the weather, and in order to see his work carried out, he was known to go to the farm in a long, brown cape and a high silk hat, and an umbrella, which might have been the one originally in use by his venerable ancestor in the swamps of Holland.

Systematic Catarrah Has But One Cure

LOTIONS AND POWDERS WILL NEVER HELP UNLESS THE BLOOD IS GIVEN ATTENTION.

The way to radically and permanently cure catarrah is to cleanse the blood of the unhealthy secretions that keep the mucous membrane inflamed. Catarrah usually interferes with the stomach, kidneys and liver. These organs must be properly toned and strengthened, otherwise you feel sick all over.

To go direct to the source of the trouble—to cleanse, nourish and purify the blood—where can you find anything so potent as Dr. Hamilton's Pills?

This grand medicine regulates the eliminating organs and completely drives the virus of catarrah out of the system. Thousands of cures prove this.

Of course to clear the nose and head of mucous discharges, Dr. Hamilton recommends the use of Catarrhone Inhaler, which, if used with his pills of Mandrake and Butternut, cures the most obstinate case of catarrah ever known. All dealers sell Dr. Hamilton's Pills in 25c boxes.

TALLEST SKYSCRAPER.

Building in New York Over 600 Feet High.

A "skyscraper" 612 feet high, with 40 stories, is now being erected in New York City for the Singer Manufacturing Company. No wood will enter into the construction of the building, even the axles and doors being of metal, and the floors of cement or marble.

Some 15,000 electric lights will illuminate the structure, and sixteen electric elevators are being installed for the purpose of carrying persons from floor to floor. Comparisons of the new building with some existing ones are as follows:

Singer Building—612 feet above ground.
Nelson Column, Dublin..... 120 feet.
Salisbury Cathedral..... 400 feet.
Blackpool Tower..... 518 feet.
St. Paul's Cathedral..... 366 feet.
Tennant's Skalk, Glasgow..... 300 feet.
Scott's Monument, Edinburgh 300 feet.

The Singer building is founded on rock 90 feet below the earth's surface, on a base 65 feet square.

At Kilbowie, near Glasgow, in the largest sewing machine factory in the world, 12,000 British workmen regularly turn out 25,000 complete machines per week. One complete Singer sewing machine is thus made in about every seven seconds of the working day.

BOY JEWEL THIEF.

New York, Dec. 20.—A seventeen-year-old boy, the confessed thief according to the police, of the \$2,000 package of jewelry stolen from the United States Express company last week, was arrested in Jersey City to-day, after trying to dispose of the entire collection for three dollars. The prisoner was a helper on one of the express company's wagons in Jersey City. His wagon carried the valuable package, which he put in his pocket.

The title of reverend was first used in England in 1457.

No Other Food Product has a Like Record

Baker's Cocoa

127 Years of Constantly Increasing Sales



48 Highest Awards in Europe and America

ABSOLUTELY PURE

It is a perfect food, as wholesome as it is delicious; highly nourishing, easily digested, fitted to repair wasted strength, preserve health, prolong life.

CHOICE RECIPE BOOK SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Walter Baker & Co., Ltd.

Established 1780
DORCHESTER, MASS., U.S.A.
BRANCH HOUSE:
85 St. Peter Street, Montreal

THE PASSING OF BABEL

Superficially it may seem a far cry from the Scriptural deluge to the commercial conditions in modern China—but, as a critic once sagaciously observed, "Whatever is as obvious about a Chinaman as the nose on his face, you may confidently affirm non est" (absence of literal nose was not, however, intended). Thenceforward, the connection, after the flood, it will be remembered, certain building construction was taken in hand, the diffracture of which enterprise is attributed to incompatibility of language among the workmen. So in China, extensive foreign commerce has been for some considerable period in process of creation, with a minimum of success, when the possibilities are borne in mind. To this result many factors have contributed, but chiefest among them stands Babel.

The fact that the written language of China is entirely distinct from the spoken, and has to be studied as a separate speech, is now a commonplace of knowledge, though perhaps fewer Europeans understand that there are three written languages—classical, modern literary and business, differing from each other and from all spoken media of communication. But what never does seem realized by the untravelled western observer is the existence of seven (some scholars say nine) separate colloquials, each as entirely unlike the other as, for example, English, German and Dutch. The use of the term "dialects" for Cantonese, Hakka, Shanghai, Ningpo, and Mandarin Chinese, to mention the leading languages, is as misleading as to describe French and Italian as dialects of Latin.

By reason of this diversity of speech the native of one province is frequently unable to speak with his fellow-countryman in the same boat, and the internal commercial situation thus created is hardly conceivable to a world-spread yet single-tongued race like the British. Since the arrival of the European pilgrim has become the commonest means of communication between natives of different provinces, both obviously a language of such limited vocabulary is liable to frequent misinterpretation. To the average foreigner engaged in trade with China, however, the only possibility, since time will not admit of the study of half a dozen colloquials, and it seems useless to acquire one which could only be of occasional service. In respect of the language handicap, therefore, the native and the foreigner are in the same boat, and trade expansion, internal and external, moves at a foot pace instead of with express speed.

Quite a little time back, as dates are reckoned in China—to be accurate, shortly before the Christian era—a monarch of post-millennium mind, but pre-historic method, thought to remedy this language question, His Majesty T'ien Shih Huang Ti, ordered the destruction of all books throughout the Empire in order that a new unilingual literature might come into being, and this as a first step, presumably, to the establishment of a single spoken language also. The violent means, especially among a script-reverencing people like the Chinese, was foredoomed to failure, and the Empire merely inaugurated a new dynasty, while the menaced languages started on a renewed and revived lease of life.

During the last twenty years the ideal of T'ien Shih Huang Ti in respect of the spoken tongue has found warm acceptance and frequent expression among all foreigners, and not a few progressive Chinese. Two or three schemes whereby it might have been propounded by those concerned with the instruction of modern education, but have fallen to the ground almost before they were elaborated, as all such suggestions must do, so long as they come from without. But the movement is no longer wholly from without. Very early in the present century the Reformers, and the native-educationists, began to discuss, not the principle of one language for the nation, that was fully accepted, but the practical means by which the end might be gained. Interest in the subject has of course fluctuated, but now it is once more prominently in evidence, with the definite proposition that Mandarin shall be accepted as the standard original language of China. Mandarin is the most modern of the colloquials, but it is also by far the most widely spread. Being the standard in Peking it is necessary for all senior officials, at any rate, to learn it for the purpose of communication with their chiefs at the capital; so that already the governing classes, though speaking, naturally, various colloquials, have all acquired Mandarin also, as a stepping-stone to advancement. For this and other causes, Mandarin is the greatly predominant language, and understood probably by three-fourths of the people, even when not their common speech. It is, therefore, difficult to imagine any of the older speeches will take its place, should one language be finally adopted as the school medium, which forms the crux of the present proposal. The method is, of course, the surest and safest, and will ensure that in the parliament of twenty years hence legislative deliberations will be carried on in a common tongue; and if, as the reformers purpose, the colloquial and written languages are to be identical, it will be possible for the great body of the people to follow, in the press, the debates of their representatives. From the point of view of the creation of a Chinese people, and the welding of the numerous Chinese Empire, no single factor is anything like so important as the defeat of Babel and the establishment of a single language. The effect on trade—direct by virtue of facility of communication, and indirect in the advent of Chinese homogeneity—can hardly be foreseen; so far-reaching must it prove, but the possibilities must appeal to the imagination of even the expert critic.—Pall Mall Gazette.

In 100 crimes, 48 are the work of habitual criminals.

Marguerite De Roberval.

Historical Note.—When the Sieur de Roberval, appointed Viceroy of Canada by Francis I., sailed for his new possessions, he took with him his niece, the lovely and high-spirited Marguerite de Roberval. A Cavalier of Picardy, who loved her, but was too poor to ask her hand in marriage, joined the company as a volunteer, but on the voyage out the affection of the young couple was discovered by de Roberval, who was so enraged that he devised a terrible punishment. Near Newfoundland was a solitary island, called the Isle of Demons, because of the strange wallings of the wind over the rocks, and here Marguerite was abandoned. Her lover, however, succeeded in escaping his guards and swam to shore. They built such shelter as they could, and this is the first European family home of which we know in Canada. After some years Marguerite was rescued by a fishing boat and restored to France, but not until both husband and child were dead. The following poem contains her story, told by herself, upon her arrival in France:

O, the long days and nights! The days that bring No sunshine that my shrinking soul can bear. The nights that soothe not. All the airs of France, Soft and sun-steeped, that once were breath of life; Now stir no magic in me. I could weep—Yet can I never weep—to see the land That is my land no more! For where the soul Both dwell and the heart linger, there Alone can be the native land, and I have Behind me no small spot of barren earth That is my hold on heav'n!

You bid me tell. My story? That were hard. I have no And all my words have long been lost amid The greater silences. The birds—they cry. My grief, nor did I feel the need of speech To make my woe articulate to the wind! If my tale hails, know 'tis the want of words And not the want of truth.

Two long, you say— Yes, yet at first, it seemed not long. We watched The ships recede, nor vexed them with a prayer. Was not his arm about me? Did he not stoop low to whisper in my tingling ear? The little Demon-island was our world. So all the world was ours—no brighter sphere.

That swung into our ken in purple heaven Was half so fair a world! We were content. Was he not mine? And I (he whispered this) The only woman on love's continent! How can I tell my story? Would you care To hear of those first days? I cannot speak.

Of them—their sleep to soft within My heart a word would wake them. I'd not speak That word! There came at last a golden day When in my arms I held mine own first-born. And my new world held three. And then I knew. 'Mid joy so great a passion of despair! I knew our Isle was barren, girl with foam. And torn with awful storm. I knew the bitter, cruel cold! My tender babe, What love could keep him warm? Beside my couch Pale famine knelt, with outstretched, greedy hand, To smother my treasure from me. Ah, I knew. I knew what fear was then!

We fought it back. That ghost of child despair. He whom I loved Fought bravely as a man must fight who sees His wife and child defenceless. But I knew— Even from the first—the unequal strife would prove Too long, the fear too keen! It wore his strength. And in his eyes there grew the look of one Who grapples time, and will not let it go. Yet feels it slipping, slipping—

Ah, my dear! I saw you die, and could not help or save. Knowing myself to be the awful care That weighed thee to thy grave! The world held two Now—one so frail and small, and one more strong. By love and weak by fear. That little life! It trembled in my arms like some small flame. Or blown in a stealthy draught that blows And blows again—none never knows from whence. Yet fearful always—ill at last, at last A darkness falls! So came the dark to me— And it was night indeed!

Beside my love I laid my lonely babe. And all fear fled: For where joy is there only can fear be. They fear not who have nothing left to fear! So! That is all my tale. I lived, I live, And shall live on, no doubt. The changeless sky Is blue in France, and I am young—think you. I am still young! Though joy has come and passed, and grief has come and passed. And I am gazing after with dull eyes! One day there came a sail. It drew near And found me on my island, all alone— That island that had once held all the world— They succored me and brought me back again To sunny France, and here I falter through This halting tale of mine—And now 'tis told. I pray you speak to me of it no more! If I would sleep o' nights my ears must catch To that sad sound of waves upon the beach. To that sad sound of wind that walleth through the vision of the sun upon the sea. And green, grass-covered mounds, bleak, bleak, but still With early flowers clustering here and there!

Isabel Ecclestone MacKay, in The Christmas Globe, Toronto.

FOR CHOICE BUYS

In City Lots and Acre Property

CALL ON CROSS & CO.

44 Fort Street.

Victoria, B. C.

BARGAINS

Choice Lands

SUITABLE FOR

Orchards

OR

Market Gardening

134-10 Acres

Good Land; Well Watered; part in Orchard. \$3,500

20 Acres

About 7 Acres Under Cultivation; Rich Black Loam. \$2,600

10 to 2 Acres

Practically All Cleared; Suitable for Orchard; Well Watered; of Main Road. \$1,600

7 to 3 Acres

Good Land; Timbered. \$85

7 Acres

Good Land; 5 1/2 Acres Ready for Plough. \$1,35

EASY TERMS

The above land parcels are in good sunny location about 5 miles from Victoria; ten minutes' walk from Victoria & Sidney Railway; School and Church close to.

SWINERTON & ODDY

1234 GOVERNMENT ST.

CIVIC NOTICE

Persons wishing to engage help of any description are hereby requested to state their requirements in writing in as few words as possible, and address the same to the "Employment Bureau," City Hall.

All persons seeking employment may apply at the "Employment Bureau" at the City Hall, which will be temporarily located in the Committee Room. WELLINGTON J. DOWLER, C. M. C.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 18, 1907.

DRY CORDWOOD, STOVEWOOD AND BARK

R. DAVENE
WOOD YARD, FORT ST. TEL 7

SHOOTING MATCH

Shooting Commences at 10 a.m. At Colwood Hotel Sunday December 22nd

20 TURKEYS and 30 GEESSE to be Shot For. All Old Hunters Invited. Entrance for Turkeys, 50c. Per Shot; Geese, 25c. Per Shot.

GOVERNING IRELAND.

Chief Secretary Birrell Has Support of Cabinet in Methods He Adopts.

London, Dec. 20.—Herbert Asquith, chancellor of the exchequer, speaking at Aberdeen last night, and Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, speaking at Berwick, declared that Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in attempting to govern Ireland without recourse to coercion, had the full approval and sympathy of every member of the cabinet.

McPherson and Fullerton Bros.

Phone 1455.
114 GOVERNMENT STREET.

WE

Are Prepared To

BUY

One Hundred Sections Of

TIMBER

Will Pay Cash For Same as Soon as Crused.

Also Put Up Advertising and License Money.

FOR SALE

Owing to moving into more commodious premises, we offer for sale at a bargain the three-storey building with basement at present occupied by us.

The Brackman-Ker Milling Co., Ltd.
1407 Government St.

If you are looking for an ideal home buy a couple of lots in Sidney at \$125 per lot.

If you want choice and cheap FARMING OR FRUIT LAND, we have it from \$5 to \$100 per acre, and from 5 to 1,000 acre lots.

We have had ten years' experience in Saanich and Island property.

Take V. & S. R. R. to

SIDNEY REALTY CO.

Sidney B. C.

M. A. THOMAS, MGR.

DON'T FORGET

THAT

W. C. Stewart

(Late of Brandon, Manitoba)

HAS CHANGED HIS

REAL ESTATE BUSINESS

From PROMIS BLOCK (up-stairs) to

GROUND FLOOR, 704 VATES ST.

Opposite New Merchants' Bank Building, in same office as A. Williams & Co. Where he will always have a covered carriage to drive customers to see his own and clients' properties. No trouble to show you round if you wish to invest.

—THE—

Hub Cigar Store

HEADQUARTERS FOR ATHLETIC SPORTS.

Good Imported, Domestic and Local Cigars and Tobaccos.

LEWIS & EVANS.

Cor. Government & Trowace Aves. PHONE 11.

Classified and Real Estate Advertisements

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR
CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS—W. Lang, Contractor and Builder, Jobbing and repairing. 17 Avalon road, James Bay. Phone 4912.

THOMAS CATERALL—16 Broad street. Building in all its branches, retail work and general contracting. Tel. 4912.

CHAS. A. MCGREGOR, 123 Blanchard street. Jobbing retail a specialty. Twenty years' experience. Orders promptly filled. Phone 1847.

DINSDALE & MALCOLM, Builders and Contractors, BRICK AND STONE BUILDINGS, A SPECIALTY.

DINSDALE, 820 Quadra St. **MALCOLM**, 25 Hillside Ave.

ROOT AND SHOE REPAIRING, NO MATTER where you bought your shoes, bring them to us. We will repair them. 211-213 Oriental Ave. opposite Pantheon Theatre.

PLUMBERS, VERY FINE CYCLAMEN from 25c to \$1.50. Freestanding, ferns, and other plants. A visit to our new conservatory will please you. Plowin's Greenhouses, Park road.

CHIMNEY SWEEPING, CHIMNEYS CLEANED—Defective flues fixed, etc. Wm. Neal, 234 Quadra street. Phone 1918.

DENTISTS, DR. LEWIS HALL, Dental Surgeon, Jewell Block, cor. Yates and Douglas streets, Victoria. B. C. Telephone Office, 527; Residence, 121.

DYEING AND CLEANING, PAUL'S DYEING AND CLEANING WORKS, 120 Fort street. Tel. 64.

B. C. STEAM DYEWORKS—Large dyeing and cleaning establishment in the province. Country orders solicited. Phone 29. Hearns & Renfrew.

EDUCATIONAL, SHORTHAND SCHOOL, 119 Broad street. Shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping thoroughly taught. Graduates filling good positions. E. A. Macmillan, principal.

ENGRAVERS, GENERAL ENGRAVER, Stencil Cutter and Book Engraver, Geo. Crowther, 11 Wharf street, opp. Post Office.

BOARDS OF TRADE, Tourist Associations, etc., should consult us when preparing guide books, advertising literature, and all kinds of illustrated folders. We group photos artistically and guarantee best results. B. C. Photo-Engraving Co., 25 Broad street.

FURNISHERS, FRED. POSTER, Taxidermist and Furrer, 415 Quadra street.

LEGAL, MURPHY & FISHER, Barristers, Solicitors, etc., 111-113 Douglas street. Commercial and Patent Office Agents. Practice before Railway Commission. Charles Murphy, Harold Fisher.

SMITH & JOHNSON, Barristers, Solicitors, etc., 111-113 Douglas street. Railway and other Commissions and in the Supreme and Exchequer Courts. Ottawa, Alexander Smith, W. Johnson.

MACHINISTS, I. HAFER, General Machinist, No. 124 Government street. Tel. 22.

MEDIUM, R. H. KNEESHAU, Medium and Healer, 123 Chatham street. Readings daily. Test circle, Thursday night.

MERCHANT TAILORS, GENTLEMEN—If you wish to get a well made and perfect fitting suit, well made and trimmed, don't miss this address. Go to the reliable tailor and cutter, J. Sorenson, 29 Government St., up-stairs, over Western Union Telegraph Office. New assortment of fall goods just in.

MONEY TO LOAN, MONEY TO LOAN on house property, easy terms; no delay. Apply the B. C. Permanent Loan & Savings Company, 25 Government street.

MONEY TO LOAN on all kinds of approved security. Unredeemed pledges for sale, cheap, at 41 Johnson street.

MONUMENTS, GRANITE AND MARBLE WORKS—Estimates given for monuments, etc. J. E. Phillips, 14 and 15 View street. Tel. 2197.

MUSIC, PROF. E. G. WICKENS has removed to his newly opened studio, 120 Fort street (second house west of Assembly Hall). Orchestral practice held every Thursday, 12 p. m. Ladies and gentlemen who are proficient cordially invited. No fee.

PAPERHANGING, F. GUEST, Painter, Glazier and Paperhanger, Estimating Even, Beaumont P. O., Esquimalt.

WALLPAPERS—New designs. Wall-paper department well stocked. Jos. Sears, 117 Douglas street, opposite City Hall.

TRUCK AND DRAY, TRUCKING—Quick service, reasonable charges. Walsh Bros., Bakers' Feed Store, 141 Yates street.

WATCH REPAIRING, A. PETCH, 30 Douglas street. Specialty of English watch repairing. All kinds of clocks and watches repaired.

SITUATIONS WANTED—MALE, WANTED—A position as hotel or saloon porter. Well known in city. Apply "Porter," Times office.

YOUNG SCOTCHMAN—(28) desires position as bartender or chauffeur, seven years experience driving leading British and French cars; slight bar experience. Box No. 128 Times office.

WANTED—Position as salesman, traveling or otherwise, by first of the year, with manufacturing firm or business concern. Apply Box 125, this office.

ROBERTSON & GRIFFITH

105 GOVERNMENT ST. PHONE 1042

A-R-E
YOU
G-A-M-E?

WE HAVE A
SIX-ROOM COTTAGE
On Cook Street, near Yates.

To Sell
For the Small Sum of \$2,400.
On Easy Terms.

IS IT A BARGAIN?
There is Absolutely Nothing in the City
Like It For the Money.
Hot and Cold Water.
Sewer Connections, Bath,
Nice Yard.

Six Large Rooms,
In Nice Order.

REPLIES TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

Letters in reply to advertisements in the classified columns of the Times await claimants as follows:

NUMBERS—12, 25, 26, 35, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

WANTED—MALE HELP.
Advertisements under this head a cent a word each insertion.

WANTED—Contract to clear land or put up a fence. P. B. Hall, P. O. Box 236, city.

WANTED—Good bookkeeper for wholesale house, local man preferred; state age and experience. Box 135, Times Office.

WANTED—Men and women to learn barber trade; wages earned while learning, catalogue free. Write Moler Barber College, Carroll street, Vancouver.

WANTED—Work for carpenters, also machinist and painters, or any other kind of work. Box 135, Times Office.

WANTED—FEMALE HELP.
Advertisements under this head a cent a word each insertion.

WANTED—Experienced teacher for Goldstream school. Apply W. Payne, secretary, Goldstream, B. C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DANCE in A.O.U.W. Hall Saturday night. Miss Thain's orchestra.

ENGLISHMAN, desirous of settling with his family in Victoria, with thorough knowledge of bookkeeping, accounting, banking, company finance and stock exchange transactions; a good correspondent, accustomed to management large staffs, seeks control of office where good organization is required. For past six years a member of London Stock Exchange. Address Box 139, this office.

JUST ARRIVED—Ladies' Fancy Collars and Blouses, Fancy Goods. R. J. Soper, the Garische Block, Yates street.

INDIAN LABORERS SUPPLIED—Messrs. Harnam Singh & Co., Indian labor contractors, 258 Douglas street. Laborers supplied in any number or description on short notice; moderate terms.

Mrs. H. E. HOWES, psychic medium and healer, can be consulted daily, Room 7, Vernon Buildings, Douglas street.

APPLICATIONS for teacher at West-Seaich school will be received up to Dec. 27th. Wm. W. Moore, Secy., Mt. Tolmie P. O.

TRIMBLE & SON, general teaming, ploughing and excavating, 17 Putman street. Phone 4148.

WANTED—Copying for a few hours each evening, manuscript letters, neatly typewritten at reasonable rates. Apply MISS, Times Office.

LOAN OF \$1,500 at 5 per cent. interest wanted on 13 lots, valued at \$8,000, well placed inside city limits. Box 123, this office.

DR. H. BURGESS, Dental Surgeon, Mahon Bldg., Government street. Phone 1618.

JAPANESE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE—All kinds of labor supplied at short notice. 1601 Government street. Tel. 1620.

THE JAPANESE GENERAL CONTRACT CO., LTD., 29 Store street, telephone No. 1568. Labor supplied of any number or description, on short notice.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL—Having purchased the blacksmith and carriage shop of W. A. Robertson & Son, 56 Discovery street, between Douglas and Government streets, I am now prepared to do all kinds of carriage, blacksmithing and house shoeing, etc. I make a specialty of shoeing horses with a quarter crooks, etc. Attention is called to my change of address, and all old customers and new ones are cordially invited to give me a call. J. J. J. Fisher, 56 Discovery street.

THE LATEST sheet metal electric signs made by maker, Victoria, B. C. Phone 1524.

CONTRACTORS—We can furnish you with laborers, or any kind of men, at short notice; Poles, Slavs, Hungarians, Lithuanians, etc.; also several well trained monkeys. Boston Shipping Co., 15 Norfolk street, New York City.

WANTED—MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED—A full blonde Newfoundland or St. Bernard pup. Apply Box 140, Times office.

WANTED—Young gentleman desires comfortable room, in private family, with or without board. Terms. Apply Box 137, Times Office.

ELK MORTGAGE at 5 per cent. interest, wanted on 20 good lots. Apply "Owner," Times Office.

WANTED—Old coats and vests, pants, boots and shoes, trunks, valises, shotguns, revolvers, overcoats, etc. Highest cash prices paid. Will call at any address. Jacob Aaronson's new and second-hand store, 64 Johnson street, two doors below Government street.

ATTEMPTS SUICIDE ON EMPRESS.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 20.—Andrew Johansson, a Swede, attempted suicide on board the Empress of Ireland on Tuesday night, during a storm by cutting his throat. He will likely recover. He was on his way to visit a son in Winnipeg.

ICE TRAGEDY.

Pembroke, Ont., Dec. 20.—R. Richardson, 72 years old, was drowned last night while crossing the ice from Winnipeg.

A. B. McNEILL

REALTY. MONEY TO LOAN.

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE.

PHONE 64. 11 TROUBLE AVE.

FRUIT FARM—2 acres, 20 trees bearing, strawberries, etc.; 7 room house, all conveniences, terms. \$6,000.

LARGE HOUSE—Menzie's street, 5 rooms, modern, corner, 40 ft. x 130 ft., terms. \$4,500.

LOTS—575 up, splendid corners.

TO RENT.

5 ROOM HOUSE—Fort street. \$22.00.

5 ROOM HOUSE—Menzie's. Call.

LOANS.

\$1,500 and \$5,000, immediately, on good security.

FOR SALE—Private, nearly four yards exquisite Brussels lace, "point a la-ville," over one hundred years old. Very wide, lovely design. \$200; very cheap. Apply Box 141, Times office.

FOR SALE—Royal Enfield Bicycle, Owner, Rev. Dakin, leaving town. Apply Finley Automobile Co., opposite post-office.

FOR SALE—Mare, buggy and harness. Apply at Times office.

GEORGE Water Frontage for sale, cheap. 5 acres. Apply P. O. Box 102.

FOR SALE—150 hens and pullets. Apply Georg Bridges, Mount Tolmie.

FOR SALE—Just outside city limits, but with city water main past property, some beautifully placed lots at \$25 each. Terms \$10 down and \$10 monthly. Apply "Proprietor," Times office.

FOR SALE—A modern house on car line. Good situation; ten rooms, all conveniences. Address Box 28 Post office.

FOR SALE—Some fine lots, several of them very large, and all well situated, a number of them free from rock, with southern slope, and the rest of high elevation, commanding unsurpassed views of coast and country, the whole of the lots being on an overlooking hillside avenue. Your choice at \$400 each, on terms of \$10 down and \$10 monthly, with 5 per cent. interest on deferred payments. Apply "Owner," Times Office.

FOR SALE—Selected Christmas trees, 10c per foot. Address orders Christmas trees, Times Office.

SIDNEY—Owner wishes to sell 10 acres good land, all clear, fenced with wire, 1/2 mile from Sidney station, 1/2 mile from school, cheap for immediate sale. Apply Box 48, P. O., Victoria.

SLAB WOOD FOR SALE—Mill slabs cut into short lengths at \$3.50 per cord delivered in any part of city. R. F. Graham, Timber Co., Ltd. Phone No. 84. Orders also taken at John Bros. Store.

FOR SALE—10 lots in beautiful situation, \$300 each, easy terms; inferior lots adjoining sold at \$100 each. Write for particulars to No. 123, office of Victoria Daily Times.

CHOICE LARGE LOTS—Making altogether nearly an acre, in nice situation, on important thoroughfare, well within the city limits, free from rock, southern exposure, fenced, and with one time under cultivation, car extension past the property and to be projected, water mains, electric light and telephone lines already there. For the four, \$5,000, on easy terms, or \$1,000 cash. Adjoining lots, less favorably placed, but at about double this price. Address "Proprietor," No. 123, Times Office.

HOLLY FOR SALE. Mrs. M. R. Smith, Seaview, 104 Douglas road.

FOR SALE—Good driving mare, harness and buggy. Apply at Times Office.

FOR SALE—Several agreements of sale more or less well paid up on property now very much more valuable than at time of sale. A safe investment, returning 12 per cent. on your money. Box 6, Times Office.

FOR SALE—Auxiliary yacht "Ariadne," lately overhauled, with full equipment. Apply Crease & Crease, 11 Fort street, Victoria, B. C.

FOR SALE—Banjo and case, \$5.00; smoking set, \$2.00; silver watches, \$2.50; razor sets, \$1.75; boys' double watch chains, \$2.50; gold rings, \$2.75; lockets, \$2.50; army revolvers, \$2.50. JACOB AARONSON'S New and Second-hand Store, 64 Johnson street, two doors below Government.

TO LET.

TO RENT—Two comfortably furnished front rooms, electric light and bath, fireplace in each room. Apply 325 Superior street.

ROOM AND BOARD—For three friends, moderate terms at 209 Piquard street, off Douglas.

TO LET—Well furnished room, 170 Yates street.

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished bedrooms, 23 Menzie's street, opposite Parliament Buildings.

TO LET—Large furnished parlor-bed room for gentlemen. Mrs. Pearson, 23 Collinson street.

TO LET—Large furnished rooms, either by week or month. 752 Kane street.

TO RENT—Rooms, large, well furnished, heated, lighted, and centrally located. Apply Box 101, Times Office.

TO LET—A furnished room, suitable for 2 gentlemen, \$15 a month. 130 Quadra street. Phone 226.

ECHO OF MONEY PANIC.

New York, Dec. 20.—The directors of the Distillers' Securities Corporation to-day declared a quarterly dividend of but a half per cent., a reduction of one per cent. from the last quarter. Contraction of trade caused by the inability to obtain currency to pay revenue taxes are the reasons made public for the dividend reduction.

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—John McConnell, a bricklayer, was arrested to-day on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of the Western hotel yesterday of Noble Taylor, McConnell is said to have struck Taylor in a quarrel last Wednesday night over a ten dollar bill.

G. H. REVERCOMB

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE.

615 TROUBLE AVE. VICTORIA, B. C.

FOR SALE—Beautiful 10 roomed modern house, on 2 lots, at a bargain.

5 ACRES—Gorge, water front, splendid location, no rock, all cleared, low price.

ALL-MODERN 6 ROOMED COTTAGE—In centre of city, in good condition.

2 GOOD HOUSES and 2 lots, close in, a bargain.

The most liberal LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies written. City canvassers wanted. Liberal commissions.

C. NEWTON YOUNG, REAL ESTATE AGENT, DUNSMUIR, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B. C.

OFFERS FOR SALE BUSINESS AND BUILDING LOTS, AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN DUNCAN, VICTORIA AND NANAIMO.

Also FARMS in the Cowichan Valley, Etc., Etc.

WRITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND PARTICULARS.

ARTHUR BELL, PHONE 188. 21 YATES STREET.

WANTED.

TIMBER.

ON VANCOUVER ISLAND AND MAINLAND.

IN SMALL AND LARGE QUANTITIES.

How good a store you have, there are many who do not know about it, and a fair and interesting statement about your business and the goods you have to offer, will be real information to a larger number than you would ever think possible. The cost compared with the expense of conveying your store news is infinitesimal.

S. A. BAIRD, REAL ESTATE AND FINANCIAL AGENT.

NEW ADDRESS, 123 DOUGLAS ST.

180 ACRES at Salt Spring Island, six acres cleared, good shack, wagon road through property; living stream runs through the property. Price \$1,600.

NORTH PARK STREET, 5 roomed house, modern conveniences, \$2,200.

COLLINS STREET, 7 roomed 1 1/2 story house, with all conveniences, \$1,200.

PEMBROKE STREET, cottage in good repair, \$1,400.

HILLSIDE AVE—New residence, 7 rooms, modern conveniences, \$5,000.

NEW MODERN SEVEN ROOMED BUNGALOW—James Bay, good basement and furnace. This makes a first-class home. \$5,250.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—On Friday, December 13th at A. G. U. W. Hall on Yates street or Gorge car, a Marguerite brooch of turquoise set in silver. Finder will be rewarded by leaving same at this office.

LOST—A diamond and ruby bracelet between Johnson and Government streets. Finder please return to 562 Johnson street, and receive reward.

LOST—On Wednesday, a pair of old Indian tar gloves, between Langley street and Oak Bay. Reward of \$1 and no questions if returned to Times Office.

LOST—Saturday night, in Victoria, the store or on Fort street cars, gold safety pin with nugget. Will finder please leave at Times Office.

The Seamen's Institute

12 LANGLEY STREET.

Free reading room for seamen and seafaring men. Open daily from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. Sunday, 12 to 1 p. m.

J. E. PAINTER, GENERAL TRANSPORT.

WOOD AND COAL at Current Rates.

Wood cut on required lengths or also machinery, Truck and Dray work promptly attended to.

RESIDENCE 1, FINE ST., V. W. F.

LEE & FRASER,

REAL ESTATE AGENTS.

11 TROUBLE AVE. VICTORIA, B. C.

MONEY TO LOAN In Following Amounts:

\$500.00

\$1,000.00

\$1,500.00

\$2,000.00

\$3,000.00

LEE & FRASER, 11 Trouble Avenue.

SWINERTON & ODDY, 105 GOVERNMENT ST. Est. 1892.

MONEY TO LOAN, ON IMPROVED REAL ESTATE.

SWINERTON & ODDY, REAL ESTATE AGENTS, GOVERNMENT STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

PEMBERTON & SON, 625 FORT STREET.

FOR LEASE.

125 ACRES, At Heal Post Office. Mostly All Good Land. 40 Acres Under Cultivation and Seeded Down, 15 Acres Shaded. School Adjoining Property. \$200 Per Year.

SHAKESPEARE STREET.

EIGHT LOTS, Averaging 50 x 135. Not Far From Car Lines. \$200 Each.

25 Down and \$25 Every Three Months With Interest at 7 Per Cent.

DUNEDIN STREET & GARBALLY ROAD.

TWO LOTS, Running From Street to Street. \$450 Each.

ALDERMAN'S ROAD.

GOOD LOT, Close to Car Line. \$237.50.

SYLVIA STREET.

LOT WITH GOOD VIEW. \$1,000.

Terms \$200 Down and the Balance on Easy Payments.

OAK BAY AVENUE.

LOTS, Just Past Foul Bay Road, With 50 Feet Frontage. \$500.

Terms, \$25 Down and \$25 Every Three Months at 7 Per Cent.

SHOAL BAY.

TWO ACRES, On Montreal Avenue, Close to Water Front. \$2,750.

SOUTH PANDORA AVENUE.

TWO LOTS, Close to Camosun Street. Good Slope. \$1,100.

All Perplexity Banished by a Visit to Victoria's Great Christmas Store

THE NOW IMPORTANT QUESTION as to what to give is what is running through the minds of everyone; and as the hours pass by so does this question in the minds of some people become more difficult to solve, in a great many instances resulting in confusion, discomfort and disappointment, through not knowing just where to go. By visiting this Store and going through the many departments this perplexing question is easily solved. In every department of this Store the Christmas spirit rules, and suggestions are shown and displayed in such a manner as to make your Christmas Shopping a pleasure instead of a tiresome drudge. Then, too, our prices are the most important factor to be considered in your Christmas Shopping, and you will find that your purse will last longer and go further than in any other store for Goods of similar nature.

Monday Ushers in Splendid Bargains in Ladies' High-Grade Costumes

Regular Prices \$40.00 and \$50.00

Monday \$25.00

THIS IS INTERESTING NEWS FOR WOMEN OF TASTE, as this Sale includes the Leading and Most Stunning Styles of the Season in Women's Ready-to-Wear Apparel. The material used in the construction of these Fine Garments, Navy Cheviots, Chiffon Finished Broadcloths, Black and Navy French Wool Venetians, also in shades of Brown, in tweed effects, all very smartly tailored. The jackets are both semi-fitting and tight-fitting 26 and 27 inches long and 3-4 length with Roll Collars edged with Braid; others with shaped back with straps over shoulder and collarless, giving the much favored "Gibson" effect; skirts are nine, eleven, and fifteen gored and pleated, and for thoroughness of workmanship could not be excelled.

Regular Prices were \$40.00 and \$50.00

Monday, Per Suit, - - \$25.00



The Home of Good Literature Is Spencer's

The Book Department of this store contains everything which will go towards making the spare moments of both young and old happy. What is better, more interesting, when sitting before a cheery fireplace than a good book? Nothing whiles the time away so pleasantly, and here you will find all kinds and at all prices.

Select a Gift of Handsome Hand-Painted China

A piece of fine China always makes a pleasing gift, and you cannot do better than inspect the many lovely pieces which are on display in the China Department, including Berry Bowls, Sets, Nappies, Trays, Card Receivers, Rail Plates, Chocolate Jugs, etc., and all at prices which you will say is right.



Post Card Albums

Just the gift that would be appreciated by card collectors. In a large variety of styles to choose from. Holds from 150 to 1,000 cards. At prices from 35c. to \$4.00 each.

Christmas Cards and Calendars

With local views. Just the rage. At prices ranging from 10c. to \$5.00

Hand Bags, Purses, Satchels, in Abundance Here

Our showing of Ladies' Handbags, Satchels and Purses is complete in every detail. Everything within the limits of good taste is to be had here made of all the most favored materials and at all prices.

Beautiful Fans Make Pleasing Gifts

Fans are articles that form a most appreciable gift. Every lady loves a nice fan, and here you will find everything that is neat, novel and attractive. They are to be had at all prices ranging from \$35.00 down to 25c.

The Greatest Values in Men's High-grade Clothing We Have Offered This Season

Suits Marked at these Prices for Monday Will Clear Quickly

Regular Prices \$27.50 to \$30.
MONDAY, PER SUIT, \$9.75

Monday we are offering some remarkable bargains in Men's Fit-Rite Suits. These splendid wearables are made up of the best West of England all wool material that can be procured, in exclusive patterns, weaves and textures, and are distinctively stylish, without being extreme in design; in single and double-breasted styles. If you stop to think of the high grade clothing we are offering you at these prices you will readily see what it means to your pocket book, the saving being from \$7.75 to \$20.00, and will not waste a moment in being on hand early Monday morning. The regular prices were \$27.50 up to \$30.00, but for Monday they are marked at \$9.75

Men's Overcoats Marked Reasonably

Our showing of Men's Overcoats embody all the leading style features of the season in best quality English Priestly, Cloths and Cravenettes, also a splendid line of English Black Cheviots, in plain and with silk facings.

PRICES RANGE FROM \$25.00 TO \$12.50



Our Showing of Men's Head-dress Cannot Be Excelled

Everything that's nobby and stylish is included in this vast assortment. Every face can be suited from this superb stock, which includes stiff and soft styles, direct from the world's most foremost manufacturers, such as the Stetson, King, Borsalino, Novall and numerous other reliable makes, and it will be greatly to your advantage to favor us with a visit before purchasing elsewhere. Prices range from \$1.00 to \$7.50.



Going Home for Christmas?

If so you want a Suit Case, Valise or Travelling Bag, you will want one for your clothes, if not what about your presents? Some place to carry, then a suit case is an ideal article. We have them at all prices:

Suit Cases from \$2.00 to \$45.00
Fitted Suit Cases from \$35.00
Filled Bags from \$25.00



Men's Handkerchiefs and Neckwear at Popular Prices

Our Men's Furnishing Department, like all others, is brimful of useful and sensible gifts. Men's Pies in all the very latest effects and styles. Men's Neck Scarfs and Handkerchiefs of all kinds, all reasonably priced.



This Store Headquarters for Toys of All Descriptions

You cannot go far astray when coming to this store for your children's toy presents. Our Toy Department on the third floor is just brimful of pleasing gifts. Then, too, they are to be had at the lowest price that can be found in the city. A visit to this section is convincing. Take elevator to 3rd floor.

Christmas Furs Are the Appropriate Gift

What is better than a gift of Furs? Pleasing, practical, lasting. A Fur piece is the finishing touch which marks the well-gowned woman. The Society Bud, the Wife, the Mother, one and all appreciate a gift of Furs. The stock of fine Furs which are to be seen here have the quality, style and finish which is necessary in a Christmas Gift.



FURS, at prices from \$2.50
MUFFS, at prices from \$12.50

Fashionable Neckwear for Christmas Gifts

We're showing a number of late novelties in Ladies' Neckwear that would make very desirable Christmas presents. Direct connections with the leading sources of supply give us quick advantage in regard to style, and fast as new things go on sale they are snapped up. For that reason we urge immediate selection if you want styles that are out of the ordinary and which must be picked up now or missed for the season. At prices ranging from 25c.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

VICTORIA DAILY TIMES

CHRISTMAS 1907



Best Wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS

Latest Coast Industry

Wonderful Development of Whaling in Waters Off Shores of Vancouver Island

Considering the importance of the industry and the large number of men and the extensive capital engaged in its prosecution, but little is known to the general public of the manner in which the whaling business is conducted.

For many years a fleet of whalers has operated from Dunce on the east coast of Scotland. These go to hunt the "right whale" in the sub-Arctic regions, and merely preserve the whale bone, which is very valuable, ranging in price from £2,000 sterling to £2,500 sterling per ton. The whale bone is found in its jaws, where it serves as a sort of drain by which the water is allowed to escape and the fish on which it feeds is retained. Attached to the end of the whale bone is a species of string-like matter somewhat resembling in appearance teased-out rope. This substance is termed blubber, and its use is to assist the whale bone in keeping back the small fish while allowing the water to pass out.

The whale bone from the "right" whales will measure from 10 to 14 feet long, and in this lies

It's Great Value

ever that obtained from other varieties of whale.

Off the coast of Norway has long been the most famous whale fishing ground of the world. Here they hunt, or used to hunt, the blue whale or sulphur bottom, the fin back and the hump back.

Of late years it has become increasingly difficult to catch whales in those waters, and the steamers engaged in their pursuit had often to go as far as from two to three hundred miles distant from their home station. A catch of from fifty to sixty whales for one steamer in the season would be considered a good one. At present on the North Pacific coast an ordinary season's catch may be reckoned as being from two to three hundred, and those obtained within a distance of not more than fifty miles from the home station, and many of them within half that distance.

Coincident with the scarcity of whales it was observed that it was increasingly difficult to maintain the catches of codfish for which the coast of Norway is also noted. The fishermen claimed that the whales fed upon and pursued the cod and drove them inshore, or rather towards the shore, and that with the reduction in numbers of the whales the codfish remained in deep water too far from land to be reached by ordinary fishing boats. In deference to popular sentiment, the Norwegian government some six years ago passed

A Prohibitory Law forbidding all whale fishing for the term of ten years. The consequent shutting out of employment of so many men whose sole calling and experience was the conduct of this business resulted in attention being turned to other untried fishing grounds.

For many years whaling operations have been carried on off the coast of Newfoundland with marked success, and where the most improved scientific and labor-saving appliances have enabled the very most to be made out of every portion of the whale with the greatest economy of cost of handling. At one time there were as many as eighteen, or twenty distinct whaling stations on the coast of Newfoundland, each with its own whaling steamer and complete plant for handling the whales. What is known as the

Rismuller Process is in use there, so called from the fact that Dr. Rismuller, a talented German, controls several of the patents which are almost essential to the success of the enterprise as there carried on. The process is described later on in connection with the stations on the Pacific coast, where it is also employed. In Newfoundland, as in Norway, persistent hunting in the course of the two decades a scarcity of whales. Where a season's catch would formerly be from one to two hundred and fifty whales it dwindled down until from forty to sixty would be all that would be expected. There also, as in Norway, it was found there was some connection between the presence of the whales and of the cod-fish schools, and an attempt was made to obtain from the Newfoundland government a prohibition of whale fishing for a number of years. But the opponents of such a measure were able to show that as a matter of fact whales do not and cannot feed on cod, and that if any connection at all beyond coincidence existed between the scarcity of whales and of cod it was due merely to the fact that the whales were not there to devour the enormous quantities of the small fish, named brill, on which both whale and cod alike feed. The cod had abundance of

its Natural Food and became indifferent to the fisherman's bait, consisting of herring and squid, which would otherwise have been greedily taken. Be that as it may, the government did not interfere and the stations still exist continue to hunt with more or less success, but the weakest stations, or those most unfavorably situated, were the first to succumb until to-day not more than eight or nine carry on business there.

To those engaged in the industry who were either legislated out of business in Norway or closed out in Newfoundland by scarcity of whales, it was natural for them to turn their attention to the South Atlantic and the Pacific oceans. One or two of what are known as floating factories are operated in the South Atlantic in the neighborhood of the Falkland Islands, but those content themselves for the most part with securing the whale bone and oil and make no attempt to make use of the many other valuable products to be ob-

tained from the carcass. But to see the industry at its best with

A Modern Plant, attention must be turned to the coast of British Columbia, the most westerly province of Canada; there on Vancouver Island, which lies off the mainland of British Columbia, are to be found three stations of the Pacific Whaling Company, pioneers in these waters in this business. Starting in 1905 the company built their trial station at Sechart in Barkley Sound on the west coast of the island. Commencing actual fishing, or rather hunting, operations the following year, a most successful season's work justified branching out, and arrangements were made to build a second station. In Newfoundland, in granting a license to a new station provision was made that it must not be within fifty miles of any other station, to protect the capital already invested. On this coast the licenses are issued by the Dominion government and each station can control 100 miles on either side of it. Therefore, therefore, hunt their second station towards the north end of the island at Kyquoot Sound, which gives them a practical monopoly of the west coast of Vancouver Island. It being found that owing to the almost constant rough weather and heavy seas prevalent on this coast during the winter months it was not profitable to run the stations during that portion of the year, the company wisely decided to build

A Third Station on the east coast of the island, where hunting is possible at almost all times, in the sheltered Straits and Gulf of Georgia, which lie between Vancouver Island and the mainland of British Columbia, and where whales are known to abound in the winter months. A site was secured near the town of Nanaimo, and the station is now ready to operate. During the winter months the crews can be transferred there from either of the other stations, and in this way not only will more whales be obtained, but it will be possible to hold in profitable employment these crews of trained and experienced men, a matter of considerable importance in this country, where labor of all kinds is scarce and highly paid.

The initial cost of a station may be roughly estimated at from ten to twelve thousand pounds sterling. This does not include the oil refinery or machinery to treat the large bones.

The capacity of such a plant will run from three to six whales a day, according to the size of the whales. The most common variety

in these waters are the hump backs, though sulphur bottoms are also numerous. Fin backs are occasionally met with, while once in a year or more a sperm whale may be captured, which is always highly prized, owing to the large amount of extra valuable oil obtained from it. About one hundred men will be employed in such a factory as described. Of these some twenty-five are white men, the remainder are divided between Chinamen, Japanese and Indians. The white men are principally employed in responsible positions, such as manager, foreman, engineer, etc., with a few white "fishers" as they are called. The Orientals and Indians do the more mechanical laboring work. In addition the Indian women are employed cleaning and scraping the whale bone ready for sale, though it has to undergo many more processes before it reaches the actual user. Good wages are paid, the Chinamen getting as high as nine pounds sterling a month without board, and the Indians six shillings a day, with liberty to eat as much whale meat as they like, a delicacy of which they are very fond.

Exclusive of the above employees are those on the whaler or whaling steamer, a

A Smart Little Vessel

of some 100 tons, with clean-cut lines and engines capable of making twelve to fourteen knots an hour. The whaler carries a crew of eleven, all told. She leaves the station very early in the morning, so as to reach the probable hunting ground about day-break. A lookout seaman is stationed in the "barrel," a small barrel-like structure high on the foremast, and to the landman's eye, a most unpleasant situation where the vessel is sailing, as in a line of movement on deck must mean at least twenty times as much aloft. As soon as the spouting of a whale gives notice of its presence, the vessel steams towards them, and here it may be remarked that, contrary to general opinion which may have been expressed in school books, a whale does not spout water, but air. A little water may be carried up with it, but what is spouted so vigorously is air, and very impure air, as can readily be testified to by those in the immediate vicinity. The whale comes to the surface for the same reason, that a man does so after being under water, and acts in the same way, i.e., he expels from his lungs the air he has used while below, and from which all the oxygen has been extracted. A whale comes up to the surface for about five minutes at a time and can remain under water about twice as long.

While the steamer approaches its victim, the captain takes his stand at the harpoon gun, mounted in the fore-bow of the boat. The gun has a charge of three inches and uses a charge of one and a half pounds of powder.

The Harpoon, which it shoots into the whale, measures four and a half feet long and weighs about 112 pounds. It is specially made of tough Swedish iron, which has the faculty of being able to stand the frequent heating and straightening out without impairing its strength. At

the end of the harpoon is attached a cast-iron point about fourteen inches long and hollow in the middle. In this hollow is inserted a bomb consisting of a quarter of a pound of powder to which is connected a time fuse so arranged that the firing of the gun lights the fuse, which burns for a few seconds and then explodes, bursting the cast-iron point and burying its fragments in the entrails of the whale. When the steamer is within thirty or forty yards from the whale the captain fires, and the harpoon, if well directed, lodges in the body of the whale. Its first instinct is to dive, and it is in the knowledge of this that the bomb is timed to go off a few seconds after the harpoon strikes the whale, as it does far more execution if exploded when a dozen feet under water. If everything goes well

The Explosion Kills the whale and nothing more is required. Should, however, the bomb not explode or do but little harm the whale sets off at a terrific rate.

Attached to the harpoon when it was fired is a strong hemp cable two and a quarter inches in diameter. This cable contains over two hundred strands, and each strand will by practical proof sustain the weight of a three hundred pound man, yet it is not skillfully played a whale will snap one of these cables. It runs down into the hold of the ship,

known, after several hours "playing," to tow a steamer at the rate of twelve or fourteen knots an hour, although the engines are going full speed astern. These boats can run, as stated above, twelve knots an hour, so that the effort exerted by the whale would be equivalent to towing a fair sized vessel at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour, and that after being wounded and already having had a long run.

When the whale is dead it is hoisted alongside, and if it is not intended to hunt any further it is secured there by the two big flukes of its tail cut off and allowed to drop into the water. Formerly they were taken to the station, and along with certain parts of the fins, salted and shipped to Japan, where they are considered a delicacy, but of late the market for them has fallen off for some reason. As the flukes are otherwise of little value and seriously impede the progress of the vessel they are thrown away.

If it is early in the day, and it is desired to do more hunting, a hole is pierced into the interior of the animal and the steam pipe attached and the carcass is

Blown Up With Air

until it easily floats, as otherwise it would sink to the bottom. A flag is also stuck into it, so it can be readily seen from a distance and the whaler goes off to pursue more, picking them

the tail, head and fins. Were this not done the barnacles would destroy the fine-edged knives driven by steam used to cut up the blubber. It is curious to note that certain species are entirely free from barnacles, the sulphur bottom and fin back being exempt from their attacks. When the animal has reached half way up the slip the "fishers" advance. Each is armed with a long-headed knife, having a blade about eighteen inches long with the finest of edges. One cut is made along the entire length of the animal; this is followed by another similar cut, only about three feet away from the first. A cable is then attached to the strip being the two cuts at the end further away from the whaler, steam is applied, and aided by the men with knives, the strip of blubber tears off much in the same manner as one would strip down the skin of a banana. The blubber is from six to eight inches thick. The blubber is then cut into square blocks by hand and thrown into a gigantic sausage machine, or so it appears, where machinery slices it up finely and elevates it into gigantic vats, where

It is Boiled until no more oil can be obtained from it. The oil is then run off into cooling vats, and soon is ready to be bottled. The residue of the blubber contains

Our Christmas Greeting

(Compiled by Agnes Deans Cameron.)

A HAPPY, happy Christmas be yours to-day! Oh, not the falling measure of fleeting, earthly pleasure, but Christmas joy abiding.—Frances Havergal.

MOST gently he told me, coming home, that he hoped the people saw him in the church, because he was a cripple, and it might be pleasant for them to remember upon Christmas Day who made lame beggars walk and blind men see.—Charles Dickens.

EVEN though others' purses be more fat, why should we pine or grieve at that?—George Withers.

REMEMBER, this day shall change our griefs and quarrels into love.—Shakespeare.

RIGHT merrily come, bring with a noise; my merry, merry boys, the Christmas log to the fire!—Robert Herrick.

YET no trumpet-blast profaned the hour in which the Prince of Peace was born.—William Cullen Bryant.

CHRISTMAS-TIDE, the open hand scatters its bounty o'er sea and land, and none is left to grieve alone, for love is king and claims its own.—Hervey.

HERE now is come our joyous feast; let every man be jolly; each room with ivy leaves be dressed, and every post with holly.—George Withers.

REST ye, little children; let nothing you frighten, for Jesus Christ, the Saviour, was born this happy night.—D. M. Mulock.

IT was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well. May that be truly said of us.—Charles Dickens.

SOME say that ever 'gainst that season comes wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated, the bird of dawn singeth all night long.—Shakespeare.

THEN pealed the bells more loud and deep, "God is not dead; nor doth He sleep!"—Longfellow.

MOST blessed day which gives the eternal life to self, and sense, and all the brute within: O come to us amid this war of life, to hail and hallow, come, to all that toil, come, blest and blessing, Christmas Day!—Charles Kingsley.

AND no bloody streamlet stained earth's silver rivers on that sacred morn.—William Cullen Bryant.

SO, blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace; east, west, north and south, let the long quarrel cease!—Whittier.

FOR what can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my part—yet what can I give Him? Give my heart.—C. G. Rossetti.

REJOICE, O young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee.—The Bible.

O, THEN, the nights are wholesome, then no planets strike, no fairy takes nor witch hath power to charm, so hallowed and so gracious is the time.—Shakespeare.

MOST surely, the wrong shall fall, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good-will to men.—Longfellow.

THEN sing the song of great joy that the angels began, sing glory to God and good-will to man!—Whittier.

HUSHED along the hills of Galilee the white flock sleeping lay, when Christ, the Child of Nazareth, was born on Christmas Day.—D. M. Mulock.

EVER I remember still—jes' a little bit o' teller—ut to almost cry for Christmas, like a youngster will.—James Whitcomb Riley.

THEN again at Christmas did we weave the holly round the Christmas hearth; the silent snow possessed the earth, and calmly fell our Christmas Eve.—Tennyson.

IS rippling laughter everywhere and the throb of dancing feet? The chiming of bells are in the air, sweet sounds of mirth in hall and street.—James Whitcomb Riley.

MERRILY now the chimneys smoke, and Christmas blocks are burning; the ovens now with baked meats choke, and all the spits are turning.—George Withers.

EVER, over valley, over hill, hark, the shepherd piping shrill, driving all the white flocks forth from the far folds of the north.—Frank Dempster Sherman.

O the young King said, "I have found it, the road to the rest ye seek; the strong shall wait for the weary, the hale shall halt for the weak."—Rudyard Kipling.

where it is most carefully coiled so as to allow of its running out rapidly without any hitch. There are generally three cables which are connected together, giving a total length of three hundred and sixty fathoms, or two-fifths of a mile, which is sometimes all required to "play" the animal.

When the fight takes place well out at sea, where there is no danger of the whale making for shallow water or near rocks, as soon as there is sufficient cable run out to prevent the whale pulling the boat under water by diving, it is usual to let the rope tighten and allow the whale to lay the steamer until its strength begins to be exhausted, when it is possible to

Haul in the Cable by means of the powerful steam winches in board until near enough to get another shot. So strong and enduring are they that a whale has been

up as she returns to the station. Besides a monthly wage the crew get a bonus for every whale brought home, and it is an record that at one station, and by means of but one steamer and crew, twelve whales were captured in three days, and five of these were secured within twenty-four hours.

As soon as the whale arrives at the station a heavy steel cable is attached to its tail, and by means of powerful steam winches it is dragged out of the water on to a long sloping slip. This takes no small power, as some of the larger animals will weigh over eighty tons. For a large whale it is usual to allow that it will weigh one ton for every foot of length. As soon as it is clear of the water, and before it has been hauled to its position for cutting down, it is attacked by the men, whose duty it is to remove the barnacles with which it is often encrusted about

what could be made into first-class glue, but at present this is allowed to go with the other waste and enriches the fertilizer described later on.

To return to the whale now stripped of its outside coating of blubber; if there is, as often happens, an inner lining of fat, this is also cut off and goes with the blubber. Another winch and crew of men now take it in hand and pull the carcass up a slip at right angles to the first until it lies between a double row of large cement-lined tanks. The whale bone is now removed from the jaws and the whole carcass is cut up and placed in these tanks, where by means of steam-heated pipes it is boiled and re-boiled until every particle of oil is extracted. This oil is termed "body oil," and is somewhat inferior to the blubber oil. The large bones are then removed and the residue of the carcass treated

Our Island's Prospects

Future Looks Bright, and Indications Are Promising for Its Rapid Settlement

The Christmas season coming as it does so near to the new year inclines to the taking of a retrospective view of the past twelve months. The year which will soon end has been the best in the history of the city of Victoria, all things being considered. During no other year has the same material progress been made and the future is indeed brighter for the city. There is abundant reason to make the Christmas a merry one and to look forward to a happy and prosperous New Year.

Vancouver Island has entered upon her best days. After a long period of neglect investors have directed attention to that part of the province of British Columbia which contains within its bounds more diversified and richer resources than any other area of the same size in any part of the Dominion. The purchase of the E. & N. and the land grant connected with that line by the C. P. R. has undoubtedly had an important effect in the awakening. At the same time there is little room for questioning that the time for the development of Vancouver Island has arrived and even had the C. P. R. not acquired the great interests it did the forward movement would have been marked. The great Canadian corporation has, however, manifested an unbounding faith in the future of the great island it has within recent years vigorous policy being pursued by that company to foster industries and to assist in exploiting to the fullest the rich material resources of the district.

At the very time that the C. P. R. cast its eye upon this island other interests were likewise aroused to see in it a great field for enterprise. The C. P. R. won in the race, but it was a close finish. Probably it is better that the C. P. R. acquired the footing it did here, but had the plans of other interests been carried out Victoria, which must always remain the chief centre on the island, would have had no reason to complain.

A proposition was on foot just before the C. P. R. made the final deal for the island road which contemplated with this city as a centre a comprehensive policy of development for the rich natural resources of Vancouver Island. Had it been carried into effect, the freest access would have been afforded all lines of railway to enter Victoria and connect with the different parts of the island to which rail communication was established. Advantage would also have been taken of the opportunities for trade along the route of the E. & N. and the extensions which were proposed in connection with it.

The C. P. R., however, with an eye to the future, secured the E. & N. and have entered upon a policy of develop-

ment which shows exceedingly gratifying results in so far as Victoria's future is concerned. The officials of the line have manifested from time to time their entire satisfaction with the bargain made when the E. & N. was acquired.

Last summer D. McNicol, vice-president of the C. P. R., after looking over in part the vast area which his company had acquired, expressed himself as more than satisfied with the transaction. He made a tour along the E. & N. line and then proceeded to Alberni by the wagon road, noting the possibilities for development in all its various lines which the country affords. To a friend whom he met on his return to the east the vice-president spoke in the most enthusiastic way. The trips about the island had opened his eyes to the immense riches which the undeveloped areas possessed, and the purchase of the E. & N. with the domains which went with it was regarded by him as a most important and business-like move on the part of the company with which he is associated.

There is no reason to doubt that other officials of the C. P. R. regard the vast interests which have been acquired on Vancouver Island in much the same light as Vice-President McNicol. The policy which is being pursued has but the idea that they are exceedingly well satisfied and regard the island and of their system as having for the future magnificent possibilities which will place it in a pre-eminent place among the company's different sections.

The C. P. R. will be forced to develop the island. There are other interests which have their eyes upon the rich territory which is awaiting transportation facilities to properly develop. Some of these will undoubtedly see good reasons to assist in the work of opening up the tremendous trade which time will create.

Victoria, situated at the gateway to all shipping for Puget Sound and the southern mainland of British Columbia, will maintain a preponderant influence in the trade of the island and share in the general development of the trans-Pacific and coasting trade.

The past year has seen wonderful activity in connection with Vancouver Island. The vast timber resources are being acquired for development, the fishing of the coast is being exploited as never before, and there has been an awakening of the other natural resources of the island which augurs well for the future.

There is no need of any pessimistic feeling on the part of Victorians. Development promises to follow quickly and the city will become not only one of the prettiest in Canada but one of the best commercially.

with sulphuric acid to reduce it to a pulp. It is then passed

Into the Dryer. This is a sixty feet long cylindrical shell mounted on roller bearings and kept constantly rotating. Heat is forced into it by means of a large furnace at one end. A screw in the inside of the shell keeps the stuff moving on towards the outer end where is an iron netting of a quarter of an inch mesh. As the stuff moves over this it falls through, if sufficiently dry and small, and is ready for bagging as fertilizer. Any residue that passes over the netting is put through the dryer once more.

The large bones have not as yet been treated at the stations on this coast. Whether ultimately sold in bulk or treated on the premises their destination is the same, to be ground fine for use as fertilizer in the shape of bone meal or bone flour, both well known and highly valued manures.

As is well known, whales are warm-blooded animals, and contain large quantities of blood; even this is utilized, being pumped up from the slippers and boiled until it coagulates, when it goes to enrich the fertilizer.

The Products of the Whale are then, as we have seen, first the oil, second the fertilizer, third the whale bone. To these other by-products might be added such as glue, bone manure and the sinews can be used for whips.

The oil from each whale varies according to its size and variety. A moderate sized sulphur bottom will yield from forty to sixty barrels of blubber oil, the best quality, and from fifteen to twenty barrels of carcass or meat oil of second quality. Each barrel will contain about four hundred pounds. A sperm whale will give sixty barrels of oil out of its head, worth twice as much as common oil, besides carcass oil, hence it is deemed a prize, but is seldom caught in these waters.

Most of the oil so far shipped has gone to Glasgow to be treated in the oil refineries there, but if, as reported, the company establish a refinery in connection with one of their local plants, it will add to their profits, as the commercial oil must then be put direct on to the market; but it is doubtful if the cost of shipping to Glasgow and back by cheap water transportation will not be more than offset by the high rate of wages here and the high cost of all plant material.

As to the fertilizer, an ordinary whale may yield from seven to eight tons of it. It has a high analysis of nitrogen, going fourteen per cent. of ammonia and some seven per cent. of phosphates. It sells for about eight pounds, aerling, and finds

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and a PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

THE GOLD SEEKERS' FIRST CHRISTMAS

Only Survivor of Little Group Tells Story of Dinner at Chatman's Bar on the Fraser River in the Year 1858

In the year 1858, with the thermometer registering 20 degrees below zero, a party of the first gold seekers in the province ate their Christmas dinner with only the scanty protection which their canvas tents afforded them, at Chatman's Bar, on the Fraser river. The little group was composed of James Moore, Jas. Glenning, Bill Hoffman, James Jackson, McArthur a trader and Charles whose family name has long since been forgotten. Of all that little Christmas family only one remains. The first named who, although 76 years of age and the victim of many accidents incidental to the rough life of a prospector, is still able to take the trail and endure the hardships which attend the search for mineral wealth in a new country.

The five gold seekers mentioned had spent the summer on the Fraser in what was then known as New Caledonia. Without any knowledge of the climate they started out December 17th from Hills Bar, the scene of the first placer diggings, to navigate the Fraser canyon having to resort to ice portages in the struggle up the river. The dream of richer gold fields which have ever since been luring hardy prospectors in the province, was ever before them, and it was without faltering that they overcame all the difficulties. They landed and pitched their tent on the evening before Christmas, 1858. Preparations were made to celebrate the day in as royal a fashion as their limited variety of supplies would permit. Unexpectedly a visitor arrived in the person of a trader, McArthur, who with a party of Indian boatmen, was making the ascent. He landed and spent the day with the miners. The day was a happy one, the mining party supplying plum pudding, while the trader was able to furnish the necessary liquor to provide "good cheer" on the occasion.

Since 1858, the year of the first rush of the gold seekers in this province, prospectors, the pioneers of every mining country, have eaten their Christmas dinners in widely scattered wildernesses. They have exhausted in many cases their scanty larder to mark the day which they had been brought up from infancy to regard as the greatest one of the year. One day in the year they ceased from all labor, while memory brought to their minds scenes of other days under widely different circumstances. Many of these men died in the wilderness, a few made fortunes, but they all had their part in laying the foundations of those settlements where to-day Christmas is celebrated amid luxury and with all the advantages of modern life.

The Exodus From Old California

Mr. Moore has an interesting fund of reminiscences to tell of the early days.

great fortunes. For a time all went merrily and well, but an unhappy occurrence took place which for a time threatened to put an end to gold digging on the Fraser by the little band then located there.

Drunken Indians

Attack Diggers
A Capt. Taylor saw an opportunity to make rich in a commercial way and brought in the first load of liquor to the camp. The price was fixed at \$5 a bottle, and gold dust was taken in payment. To the Indians the conditions were highly satisfactory, and as Taylor was the judge as to the value of the Indians' gold, he was able to sell for their whiskey. The introduction of that liquor came very nearly resulting in a tragedy as an introduction to the early history of the mining industry on the mainland of B. C.

The Indians became frenzied, and in self-protection the band of about fifteen whites took the law into their own hands. They confiscated Taylor's liquor and, breaking in the heads of the Indians, let it run freely into the Fraser.

But before this step was taken the mischief had been done and the Indians became unmanageable. One of them picked up a pick and was about to attack one of the white miners; when the latter, seizing a shovel, broke the handle of it over the Indian's head. The trouble then became general, and the Indians armed themselves for an attack. The whites expected nothing else but extermination, but determined to sell their lives as dearly as possible. With wild rage, the Indians gathered about their chief, who harangued them from a stump. The whites took shelter, determined to put up a stubborn resistance.

But opportunely Governor Douglas and a party of about a dozen blue jackets from the Satellite arrived. The miners, armed to defend themselves against the Indians, saluted the governor with a volley. Peace was soon restored by the governor, who took the Indians to Fort Yale and "banquetted" them on hardtack and molasses.

Ned McGowan Was

A Versatile Man

Billy Ballou, an express mail driver from California, who visited the country, was entrusted with letters and samples of the gold dust, which he took to San Francisco. The greatest excitement was created in California and from that on the arrivals on the Fraser rapidly increased.

There were some wonderful characters thrown together in those early days, and Mr. Moore recalls most interesting tales of them. Among the adventurers was Ned McGowan, who had been a judge in San Francisco and was a man of special ability. He had been run out of California by the Vigilantes and escaped to New Caledonia. In good society McGowan was perfectly at home and soon became a leader. He could equally well adapt himself to the society of roughs and be assigned the first place. He thus was able to make all kinds of trouble and carry into execution practical jokes, which helped to relieve the monotony of life.

Governor Douglas appointed as his first justice of the peace on the mainland George Perrier. McGowan persuaded Perrier that he should appoint a constable, and this was accordingly done. But the constable on going to Fort Yale got intoxicated, was arrested and lodged in jail. McGowan, ever ready to plot mischief, thereupon persuaded Perrier that his dignity had been trampled upon by the arrest of his constable. He induced Perrier to avenge the indignity by appointing himself (McGowan), and some other special constables, and under this authority they proceeded to Fort Yale

LOST A PACK TRAIN AND A CHRISTMAS PUDDING

It was a sweating pack train that climbed the mountain side, Now thinking up a zig-zag, now clattering over a slide, The creaking packer rode behind, and as he rode he cried:

"Get up! you Borell Limited! Get up! Borell Limited! In sausage skins and little pots you'd find yourselves complete; Keep wagging up the grade, my lads, and don't delay the train. The Christmas Dinner, Camp Express, sit on, you sons of Cain!"

The Cargador had stopped behind to bring the Christmas mail; The Boat was late; he'd hurry on and catch them on the trail; And so it fell that Packer Jim was driving them alone— Full well they knew his iron hand, his heart of very stone.

There were Billy, and Alexis, and Shuswap Sam, and Nell, Ruth, Washington, and Macabea, and Sorrel with the bell, Buck, Jane, and Alec, and McInnes black as coal, Long-headed Sam, Abednego, and Hamilton the fool.

Now Bednego and Macabea were chums. One summer's ride They shipped the Packer's eagle eyes, and wandered far and wide; They watched the very bunch-grass turn at length from green to gold; And then they sought the ranche again to shelter from the cold.

The train was jangling carelessly along a steep divide, On one side lay a mighty bluff, below a rocky slide; When suddenly, Abednego, misstepping while he slept, Was overbalanced by his pack, and down the chasm swept.

In front old Sorrel with the bell, Jane, Shuswap Sam and Buck, Together climbed the giddy path; below the rest were stuck; For Macabea, dashed to see his comrade's tragic end, Incontinently blocked the way a rod above the bend.

Each apathetic cayuse stood at ease and leaned his load Against the overhanging bluff that fenced the upward road; While, hid from sight behind the herd, the furious man essayed To hustle on the halting train, as full of wrath, he prayed:

"Git up, you top-eared centipedes! Git up, I say, and dust! This ain't no bloomin' funeral, keep wagging till yer bust! The miners' Christmas grub might rot and not a damn I'd care, But we've not got the cheese, my boys, before 'ere 'e handed there!"

Entrances, curses, blows and threats were all of no avail, Young Hamilton, the hindmost, vowed nothing but his fall; The creaking packer came to earth, and sprawling slowly past The lagging train, found Macabea confronting him at last.

The look upon that horse's face spoke more than any word, Did he mistrust, contempt and blame; the Packer read, and spurred Old Macabea with penish kicks and many a heartless blow; And sundry saw the battered carcase a hundred feet below.

"Is that yer lay?" he madly yelled, "You won't desert yer mate? You better quit yer monking now or share his gaudy fate!" He reached and tore a pitchy splint from off a scrubby fir, Lit, held it under Macabea, and said, "I guess you'll stir!"

The faithful comrade steadfast stood and uttered no complaint, No signal came from Macabea, no movement, but a faint, Unceasing shifting of the hoof and twitching of the tail. The Packer white with passion grew to see the torture fail.

"Alright," said he, "you spotted son of Jezabel by Cain, I'll take care you don't fool me up this blasted way again!" And flinging off the diamond hitch, he tore the manteau back, And laid the best and turkeys by the bluff beside the track.

He braced his shoulders on the rock, his foot against the side Of sturdy Macabea, he pushed him down the fatal slide; "Go, join yer pal," he shouted, "Go pack ginger beer in hell!" And, sure enough, next instant he was going there as well.

For as he straightened out and forced him over inch by inch, The rowl of his bloody spur entangled in the cinch; And, screaming horrid blasphemy, and grabbing for a hold On moss and rock and tussock-grass, across the brink he rolled.

The near-by horses stood and stared like stiles at the scene, Till Washington stepped gingerly like Christmas fare between, Bill, Alec, Ruth, Alexis, Nell, McInnes black as coal, Followed, with Sam, the saddle horse, and Hamilton the fool.

They gained the ridge, and straightway heard the tinkle of the bell As far alone above a deathly silence, and a dead fall fell; There all the weary horses, browed and revelled to be free, And tore away the irksome packs against the nearest tree.

That evening miners, peering through a snowstorm, said: "They must Be coming soon," but never heard Jim's shout "Git up and dust!" The Cargador at nightfall found when bringing in the mail Some turkeys, beef, a larder, and a mautau on the trail.

A lone prospector dropping down upon the camp next week, Betwixt his drinks beside the bar, said, "Yonder by the Peak, I saw fourteen cayuses feed—one black as any coal, Eight grey, five sorrel, one a bell, and one a six-months' foal."

And what became of Hamilton, Long-headed Sam, and Nell, McInnes, Ruth and Washington, Sam, Alec, and the Bell, Alexis, Billy, Jane and Buck—forever never tell.

and took the drunken constable out of jail.

The incident was reported to Governor Douglas, who sent a party of marines to deal out justice. But McGowan was prepared. He received the marines in quite an ostentatious manner, had a luncheon ready, and about the festive board explained that the

whole thing was a joke and succeeded in effecting a settlement.

Bloody Edwards Showed Bravery

"Bloody" Edwards was another character of the camp. He had been a midshipman in his younger days and was

intensely loyal to the Queen. He conducted a furniture store and bar. As most of the diggers claimed to be Americans, they would endeavor to induce Edwards to claim to be an American. This he would never do, and would argue his point in defence of the British institutions to the bitter end, concluding with a proposal of "three

Custom of Giving Christmas Presents

Popular Practice Has Its Abuses, but Affords Opportunity to Bring Happiness to Many Who Appreciate the Kindness

The observance of Christmas by means of gifts is more widespread than it used to be. To many a one the Christmas season is a time of much careful planning to accomplish something for everyone whom she feels that she must "remember." It is this feeling that makes the custom seem almost a burden, and takes away something from the joyousness associated with the season. To everyone of generous temper there is a delight in giving greater even than in receiving. One must be very selfish when one does not want to have some part in the diffusion of Christmas gifts. It is only what we give because we think it is expected of us, or to maintain our independence of favors, that seems in the nature of an exaction.

Christmas gifts were originally an expression of affection and good-will, and it is only without the give is bare. Our offerings to our friends should be chosen with special reference to their individual tastes and wishes. The evidence of thoughtfulness and loving care adds immeasurably to the value of the gift. To know that we have been specially thought of and planned for makes our warmest gratitude well up in response. Not long ago the exchange of gifts was limited to members of the family, and very near friends, but every year the circle seems to widen. An acquaintance sends you a fairly high-priced trinket, and your first thought is to dispatch to her

something costing just as much. Next year you remember that her gift came first, and you put her down on your list near the top. And so the demands increase, and a beautiful custom becomes, in part, a matter of forced exchange. It requires a good deal of moral courage to refuse to do as others do at the risk of being thought mean. But when we cannot give presents without feeling them an exaction, it is better not to give them at all, and to acknowledge those we cannot reciprocate, with a sincere note of thanks.

It is one of the sad features about the undue bounds to which Christmas giving has lately been carried, that to those who have much is given. Often the most money is spent on gifts to those who already have an abundance, and who receive so many "remembrances" that they hardly know what to do with them all. This Christmas, let us consider whether there is not a better way. Why not send a letter of affectionate greeting to those of our friends who already have enough, to spare, and devote the money, which we would have spent in adding to their store, rather to bringing sunshine into shaded places.

Gifts for the children are, naturally, and rightly, the first consideration. There is room for the exercise of much wisdom in choosing the presents for them. A good deal of money is wasted every year on "just as they are" gifts. It is better to buy one good substantial article that will last and

become one of the childish treasures, than several flimsy ones which perhaps give more pleasure at first by their abundance, but are useless after a few days or even hours. We are apt to forget that the child's standpoint is not ours, and that what the child really desires and what we think he ought to desire are frequently quite different. Fortunately, the little one is never backward in expressing his preferences in "letters to Santa," or otherwise. In purchasing toys, it is well to remember the child's natural love of investigation, and need for activity. Something that can be taken apart and put together again, or can be used in "making something" appeals to most boys, and girls like a common doll that can be dressed and undressed and played with far better than some elaborate waxen dolls that must only be handled with care. While a child's individuality is shown in his choice of toys, so also the toys have something to do with the development of individuality. Almost all children have generous impulses, and these should be encouraged and, if need be, directed by a hint now and then, at the Christmas season. Let the child have a share in giving of his very own, as well as receiving.

Next to the children, old people and invalids or the "shushes" should have ample consideration. With the old, it is not so much the gift itself as the fact that they are lovingly remembered that gives pleasure.—Canadian Pastor.

REMINISCENCES OF EARLY MINING DAYS

The Experience of Those Who Sought Their Fortunes in the First Days of the Gold Rush in This Province

bloody good cheers for the Queen." Edwards had no sense of fear, and illustrating this feature of his character Mr. Moore tells an incident which clearly bears out the contention.

One night Mr. Moore heard shots being fired from Edwards' store. He rushed over to the place and found the store and bar occupied by a band of drunken miners. Edwards was behind the bar holding a lighted candle in his hand, and the others were firing at the candle. Mr. Moore quickly saw a way out of the difficulty, and advancing to the bar, raised all up for a drink. The situation was explained by the fact that Edwards had been twitted with being a coward. He was but giving a practical illustration of the fact that he was not a coward by allowing drunken men to shoot at a candle held by him.

The First Named Gold Commissioner

Capt. Treveller, the first gold commissioner at Lytton appointed by Governor Douglas, proved an easy mark for thirsty miners. The captain had seized a consignment of liquor and kept it stored at his place. The miners would gather and devise ways and means for tapping the barrels. Doubt would be cast upon the purity of the liquors seized, and it would even be represented that the kegs contained only water. Treveller would thereupon be obliged to prove that he had not been hoaxed. He would tap the prize and all would have to sample the contents until all were intoxicated. On the next visit another way to reach the prize would have to be planned, but the miners succeeded in having a large share of the seized whiskey.

In the spring of 1859 Capt. H. M. Ball was appointed to relieve Capt. Treveller.

Blue Lead Mine Still Operating

In 1859 Mr. Moore and his party quit the diggings, which were only yielding about \$25, and made the discovery of the Horroby River fields, where \$100 a day was cleaned up by a man with a rocker. The Blue Lead was located in that year and is to-day still being operated as the Ward mine.

By that time the fame of the mines was attracting seekers from all directions and some comedians by the Okanagan country. A Mexican brought in fifty pack mules loaded. With the approach of winter, and not knowing the character of the country, he had them all shot rather than see them starve as he expected. Had he gone on a short distance with his animals they could have lived out all winter.

Another eccentric character of those

in reduced circumstances. He took him into the cabin to straighten up the ship's accounts.

Shortly after arriving in Victoria Cox was appointed by Governor Douglas as customs house officer at the boundary. In Yale district, to collect revenues on goods and animals coming in overland from Oregon. He was later made gold commissioner in Cariboo, a position he filled very satisfactorily.

In deciding questions brought before him Cox had often a most original way of proceeding. His general advice to litigants was not to bring their cases to court, but to settle them outside. On one occasion when this advice was not followed the two parties claimed to be each the first locators of a mining claim. Cox ordered that both men start from the court house together, get an axe each and covering the distance to the ground in dispute, drive their first stake. The claim was to go to the first one who got his stake in position. The distance to be covered was two miles, and a hard race ensued.

In another case, involving rights to ground on Cedar creek, the evidence was taken on Saturday, and Cox reserved his judgment until Monday. He then decided in favor of the plaintiff, ordering, however, that the successful litigant should pay the entire costs, including the fees of the lawyer for the defendant as well as his own counsel fees. The defendant intimated that he would take an appeal from the decision. Going into Cox's office after court was over on some other business, the gold commissioner presumed it was with respect to the case. He frankly admitted then that on Saturday he had intended to give his decision in favor of the defendant. But on Sunday the plaintiff had had him to a champagne supper and his opinion had changed.

Palmy Days on Williams' Creek

Thus was justice dealt out in some cases in the early days of the province. Williams creek, says Mr. Moore, in the palmy days of '61, '62 and '63 was a lively place. Theaters were in full swing, while dance halls, bars and gambling places reaped rich harvests from the libelal miners who seemed to think that the gold in their claims would never grow less. They were as careless of the "dust" as if it had no value. Many of the dance hall girls married miners and established homes in different parts of Cariboo, and gained the respect of all in later life.

Christmas Goose

Proved Life Buoy
The old-timers in Cariboo recall a trying experience which John Mett, one of the earliest gold seekers had in an



PIONEERS OF CARIBOO. Photo by E. G. Prior.

From left to right, with date of arrival—James Stone ('73), John Bibby ('71), Richard Berry ('62), S. A. Rogers, ex-M. P. P. ('62), Alex. Coult ('60), George Isaacs ('64), William Fitchie ('60).

He was one of those who first invaded New Caledonia in quest of gold. He says about 1856 or 1857 Donald McLean of the Hudson's Bay Company at Kamloops, had had some gold brought in by the Indians, and in February, 1858, it was sent down by the purser of the Otter to San Francisco, where it was coined. The story of the discovery spread, and a rush was made for what was then New Caledonia. Mr. Moore was among the first, landing at Bel-Bingham and proceeding from there to the Fraser. They passed up the river, making a landing at Fort Hope, where Donald Walker was in charge for the Hudson's Bay Company, and the latter met for the first time white men on the river who were not in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company. In March the first discovery of gold was made at Hills Bar. And the find was reported back to Fort Hope. Indians gathered and were put to work. The news spread and the camp was augmented by whites and Indians.

The busy days were commenced on the diggings and all had visions of



PIONEERS OF CARIBOO. Photo by E. G. Prior.

From left to right, with date of arrival—William Hodgkinson ('62), H. Wilcox ('65), James Bryce ('63), John Stevenson ('64), Simon Reid ('64), John Pomeroy ('63), David Edwards ('63), Andrew Kelly ('62), Chas. Howse ('63).

early days was Judge Cox. He left California, Mr. Moore says, during the excitement of 1858. Having sufficient money to pay his passage Cox had recourse to stratagem in reaching Victoria and shipped as cook on a sailing vessel. Just what representations were made by Cox as to his qualifications for the post are not on record. The ship was ready to sail, however, when Cox went on board.

At eight bells the crew went to the galley for dinner, but to their astonishment nothing awaited them. The situation was explained by the fact that Cox knew nothing of cooking, and could not prepare any meal for the men.

Complaint was soon made to the captain, who ordered Cox before him. The cook admitted he knew nothing whatever of matters pertaining to the culinary art, but explained that he was "broke" and wanted to get to Victoria.

All that could be done was to press another of the crew into service as cook. The captain discovered that his would-be cook was an Irish gentleman in the lake.

effort to properly honor Christmas day by securing a goose for the dinner table.

Occasional wild geese were in the habit of remaining on the Cariboo lakes sometimes for a considerable time after the regular flocks had migrated.

In this particular year, in the early '60s there had been a delay on the part of some of the wild geese to quit the lakes, and in the first part of the month of December John Mett decided he would provide for his Christmas dinner. He shot a goose on the ice, and in venturing out to recover it broke through the thin coating and sank in the cold waters.

It was then that the goose he had taken proved his salvation. "It served as a life buoy and kept him afloat until he was able to gain the solid ice." In the frosty air his clothes were frozen stiff, and it was only in the nick of time that friends found him and gave him help he needed to prevent his freezing to death. He retained the goose and enjoyed it some days later at Christmas dinner, but his ride was lost in the lake.

PROSPECTS FOR 1908

The New Empress Hotel

C. P. R. Is Equipping Model Home for Tourists Who Make Victoria Their Headquarters.

The Empress hotel is to be opened early in the new year. Stewart Gordon, who will manage the establishment, has been on the ground for the past few weeks looking after the installation of the furnishings, and enlisting the working staff.

The new hotel promises to be equal to the best of the several good ones owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in Canada. It will stand well up with the Hotel Vancouver, the Hotel Chateau Frontenac, Quebec.

The building was inspected by President Shaughnessy and party during their visit to the coast in October. The president expressed satisfaction with the appearance of the structure, but suggested that it was going to cost too much.

There has been so much of money in working out the plans of the hotel. In all departments the very best material has been introduced, regardless of expense.

An appreciation of the dining room which may be regarded as

The Central Feature

of an hotel establishment can only be expressed in one way. It is grand. In the rosewood which has been employed in this apartment opportunity has been found for the creating of a fine general effect, not only from the beautiful lines of the wood itself, but in the carvings which have been generously worked throughout the plan. The panels on the walls and ceilings are colored in a very beautiful green and the floor is of oak, with a red mahogany border.

In the spacious rotunda is witnessed another fine achievement in hotel architecture. The color used in this apartment is a very pretty tint of green, and the appointments and decorations are becomingly introduced. The floors are tiled in attractive patterns.

The coloring of the offices is made to represent a Persian marble. White oak is the material used in the floors of this apartment, with an artistic border of mahogany and other woods. The main staircases are of oak.

Beautifully Grained

and toned to the general effect. Opening off this stairway, half way between the floors, is located the mezzanine, a sort of alcove or small room designed for the occupancy of the orchestra, from whence will be discoursed sweet music when guests are passing down to dinner or lounging amid the luxurious corners of the lower floor. This apartment is fronted with oak of similar tone to that of the staircase itself.

The experience has no doubt come to some of bridging the distance between the prosaic atmosphere of the street, and the walls of a great establishment whose exterior faces them as a common place creation of human hands. Within they and themselves as it were in another world, embracing all the complexities of a great idea. And this sudden passage is made between the confines of Government street and the doors of the big C. P. R. hotel. The visitor is suddenly translated to a world of the highest development in the science of catering to the travelling public. The magnitude of the enterprise in all its manifold departments and complexities is a revelation. From an expenditure of \$200,000, as estimated for the undertaking, as first agreed upon with the city.

The Outlay

on the big hostelry has grown until it

approximates \$1,000,000. At least it will come so closely to that figure, that the possessor of the amount, might classify as a millionaire. The foundations and fillings alone cost \$120,000. The cost of the power houses will total about \$100,000, not including the money paid for the property and the old building from which it was remodelled. The following season, the gruesome shack, and the machinery surface which marked the site of the hotel a few years ago, have been obliterated at a heavy expenditure, and promise already found in the surroundings of a fine accomplishment of art, capital and labor. In a comparatively short time the loathsome picture of some months ago will have been converted into one of the beauty spots of the world.

The plans for the great hotel have been carefully worked out. Every device known to the sciences which is employed in a world challenging establishment has been introduced, regardless of expense. The system has been perfected, so that there shall be harmonious connection, intercommunication and response throughout all its details down to the minutest threads.

In the rooms which it offers to the traveller, in the kitchen that must feed its battalion of guests, in the laundry that will keep its linen spotless, and serve cuffs, collars and glossy shirt fronts to the company, the very latest and

Most Approved Ideas

have been introduced that make for excellence, and in many departments of the establishment the acme of attainment has been reached.

One may reach the Empress by several routes. There are the entrances for the guest and visitor that may be approached from the street, and there is the underground route from the power house—a great square concrete tunnel—which is to be the thoroughfare for communication between the factory building, which houses the laundry, power house, helps quarters and extra baggage rooms, and the hotel. Through this subterranean passage are carried all the pipes and wires which transmit the steam, electrical power and refrigerating power, to the vast system which extends in a multiplication of branches throughout the big establishment. Through this tunnel chambersmaids and domestics will rush to and fro. Great baskets of laundry will be transported from one end of the process to the other. And commercial men may occasionally seek its illuminated way to their merchandise in the rooms of the

Accessory Building

Through this tunnel the power will be breathed into the hotel. And in one of the systems of equipment which passes through it all the dust accumulation of the hostelry, throughout its 175 rooms and spacious lounging, dining and business apartments, will be sucked. The vacuum principle will supplant the broom and feather duster in this branch of the Empress' domestic routine. One little devil fish of an engine will extend its suckers into the atmosphere of the house, and draw out all the particles and microbes that chance to be spilling about the chambers.

It is the business of another engine to attend to

The Refrigerating System, which has its branches in the wine cellar, kitchen and other parts of the hotel. It pumps ammonia through the tunnel, and draws it into a complexity of coils which are found in oak

closets, in basement tanks and in a confusing number of places, amid the sub-basement intricacies of the hotel, and in the culinary department. This system will be used not only for cooling, but for heating purposes also. Ice will be delivered from this service in glistening blocks for all purposes for which ice is needed in catering to the appetites and the necessities of mankind.

Sufficient Power

To illuminate a city, for there are many lights to feed from the single glow-lamps of the upper floors to the chandeliers and sprays of lights which will adorn the hotel rendezvous, the switch board which controls this lighting system is a mystery in itself, and is an elaborate affair.

Then there are a number of pumps for various purposes. Chief among these is the one that serves as an auxiliary protection against fire, and to supply hot water to the upper elevation of the hotel. This pump is capable of taking water from the city service as fast as it can be delivered and distributing it over the top of the building. The power of the whole system of engines is generated by three 150 horsepower boilers.

Laundry Department

embraces a variety of strange looking machines for washing, wringing or extracting, drying, ironing and other things. Electricity is the power applied to this plant, which represents

meals for service on occasion into all parts of the building.

From the popular standpoint, perhaps the most interesting feature of the

The Basement

is the most interesting floor. The barber shop is there, and also the bar and billiard room. The finish in all these apartments is very creditable. The barbershop is wainscotted with marble, and choice woods and tasteful colors are generously employed throughout. The lavatories and wash rooms are also on this flat.

Something has already been said of the main floor and its beautiful rotunda, diningroom and offices. And good taste is expressed in like attractiveness all through the great establishment. The corridors are large, airy and bright. There is no suggestion of stuffiness or depression. And all the rooms are as attractive as should be in an establishment that challenges comparison with any hotel in the country. The doors are all of Australian Rosewood.

A color which blends happily with the white employed generally through the house part of the establishment. Great vent shafts extend from the sub-basement to the roof of the hotel, and these shafts are used as conduits for all the pipes and wires used in the light, heat and water systems. All the toilet fixtures connect directly with these shafts, which also carry ventilators for diverting any suspicion of odor from the apartments. This is one of the features of the hotel construction. All the complexities of the vast

est resort are such that it is expected that not only will the Empress be kept well supplied with guests but all other hotels will reap a rich harvest.

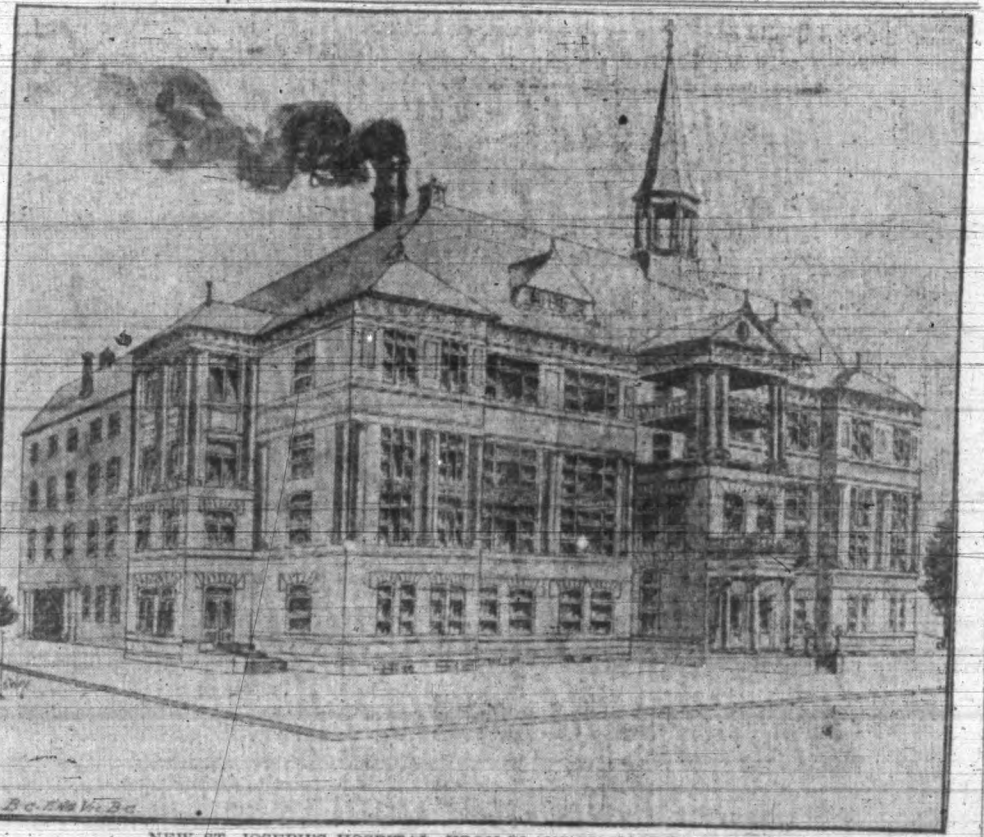
WEST COAST TRAIL

Good Road Constructed by Dominion Government to Assist in Life-Saving.

Of the work undertaken primarily for the benefit of shipping in this province by the Dominion government during the past year, the completion of twenty-two miles of pack-horse trail which is being built on the west coast of this island, ranks as one of the most important achievements.

The work was only commenced during the summer, but the energetic trail-builders under Superintendent J. D. McDonald had, when they discontinued work for the winter at the end of November, completed work on that portion of the trail lying between Banfield Creek cable station and the long beach to the south of the Pachena light-house. A pedestrian can now traverse a good road from the creek to the precipitous bluff overlooking the scene of the Valencia disaster. In the completed portion twenty-one bridges have been built and sixty-two culverts, while in ten places the trail has been corduroyed for long stretches.

The two life-saving guns have been installed at Banfield and Pachena to be used on the trail in case of necessity. It is expected that an early start will be made at the end of March next year upon the remaining portion.



NEW ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, FROM PLANS BY HOOPER & WATKINS.

all the most modern ideas known to the laundry business.

The tunnel from the power house connects with the sub-basement, where an hydraulic lift is located to assist the passage of business to the main floor. The wine cellar, hot water tanks, ice-making tanks and numerous other appointments of the hotel system are located here. Of the transportation service throughout the building it is sufficient to say that \$25,000 is represented in elevator construction. The elevators are operated by electricity, and from the power plant. Among these is one for carrying

and Supt. McDonald has every hope of pushing the road through to Carmanah before the end of the fall.

The progress of the trail-builders has been exceptionally rapid when it is considered that the topography of the country traversed is rough and broken, heavily timbered and serrated by valleys and streams. When the work was commenced the existing telegraph line and trail was surveyed and a new route picked out. A suitable place for bridging the Pachena river was selected and a path, six feet in width was made through the trees and underbrush, the latter, in places being between eight and ten feet in height.

Protected by Fire Doors

which are so ingeniously introduced into the construction as to occasion no deterioration of artistic consideration and at the same time provide against the spread of conflagration. These doors separate the north and south wings of the building on every floor. They are so arranged that a child may put them from their hiding places, and establish their impenetrable barriers against the onslaught of the devouring element. On every floor also there are hose connections ready for the most abrupt emergency. These hose connections are none of an ornament, but otherwise to the establishment, whilst promising the very best efficiency in case of need. This is

An Electric Clock

near the main elevator on all the floors, and other accessories to contribute to convenience, comfort and safety.

Oak has been employed in furnishing the top story, and mahogany has been used throughout the rest of the establishment. The bedsteads are of brass and all kindred furnishings are of the very best procurable for hotel purposes. The staircases, except those leading from the main floor, are of iron and slate. A large number of the rooms are equipped with mantels and the places handsomely contrived, and the bathroom accessories and toilet appointments throughout are of the very best.

The opening up of the Empress hotel by the C. P. R. is attended with great promise, as far as Victoria is concerned. Evidence is not wanting that the intention is to make this city a great tourist centre. The company has under contemplation a system of auxiliary resorts elsewhere on Vancouver Island, which will be utilized in conjunction with the Empress for the comfort of tourists. Facilities will be afforded at fishing and hunting centres and at pleasant resorts whereby the guests of the hotel may take full advantage of these features on Vancouver Island while making Victoria their headquarters all the time.

The advantages which the C. P. R. has for advertising this city as a tour-

Coming Year's Promise

Considerable Work Already Planned— Building Will Be Continued During This Winter.

The outlook for the coming year was never brighter. There is no evidence that the building which has been so active during the past year will show any cessation during the coming months.

On the contrary there is in sight at the present time about \$150,000 worth of building which will be commenced this winter or very early in the spring. This is confined for the most part to the business section of the city and is exclusive of the palatial residence which Hon. James Dunsmuir is preparing to build at Hutley Park and which will probably amount to \$100,000.

Among the new buildings planned for the winter is the tramshed which will cost probably about \$10,000. The school in Victoria West will represent another \$30,000. The Bakeries in Victoria West upon which work is commencing, will amount to \$35,000 more. Mr. Mable has in contemplation a new carriage factory to accommodate the increasing trade, which he is

called upon to do, and this will probably mean an expenditure of about \$15,000. A flyery stable, costing \$10,000 in addition to the new transfer stables which are estimated at \$25,000, are also included among the improvements planned.

In various other parts of the city at least \$40,000 is being expended on building which if not at present in course of construction, are about to be commenced.

A gratifying condition is that afforded by the experience of the proprietors of the Malton block on Government street. So satisfied are they with the investment afforded by the block built this year that they are reported to have decided to duplicate it just as soon as a lot can be procured for them. This will result in an expenditure of about \$40,000 for a new block.

In view of all these circumstances the outlook for the year is extremely bright and Victorians have every prospect of experiencing a better season in 1908 than during the one just passed.

The ground was levelled and graded, rocks and heaps of vegetation being cleared away. Cribbing was found necessary on several of the grades to hold the earth of the lower side of the trail from sliding away, and numerous water-courses were dug on the inside. The courses carried away the water from the trail to a large number of culverts, thus draining the roadway and preventing it from becoming soft in rainy weather.

It was found necessary to build over a score of bridges over the many streams and these were mostly built of rough staves with coverings of split cedar. All of them were strongly constructed and are able to stand a weight of many tons. The chief obstacle to the rapid construction of these bridges was the absence of small timber, great trees having to be felled, split with wedges and trimmed up. Many of the bridges were erected on the truss plan and in all cases the floor was placed at a height of eight or ten feet above the level of high water in the rivers.

After bridging the Pachena, the trail-builders carried on the roadway close to the shore-line and on this part of the route, very steep bluffs were encountered. Blasting with powder was necessitated by these bluffs to expedite the work and after this a level stretch of ground for the greater part of the way skirting the Pachena Bay was traversed.

On this stretch the work of construction, compared with that between Banfield and the Pachena river, was comparatively easy. Swampy ground was not often encountered but the route followed was through timbered country, where the fallen trunks of forest giants and the vegetable decay of centuries obstructed the workmen. For several miles a covering of brush with a top-layer of gravel was laid down and made an excellent roadway.

Much labor was involved in the removal of fallen timber as the outside of the logs had decayed to such an extent that they had to be split before a hold could be obtained with cant-hooks. The undergrowth, mainly salal and salmon berry bushes, often grew to a height of ten feet and required much exertion to remove.

Before the coming of the winter was heralded by bad weather, the trail was connected to a long stretch of hard beach south of Pachena light, which makes pedestrianism possible to the

bluff near the place where the Valencia was lost.

It is probable that Clooose will be used as a base for the operations next year as it is the only suitable and safe place between Banfield and Carmanah at which steamships can land supplies. For the transportation of materials and supplies from Clooose to the various camps a stout motor-launch may be provided and a number of flat-bottomed boats to convey supplies to the shore.

For the successful completion of such a large portion of the trail in such a comparatively short time, Supt. McDonald and his men deserve the highest possible praise.

THE LIGHT FOR PACHENA.

One of the Most Modern Type Is Being Installed at Present Time.

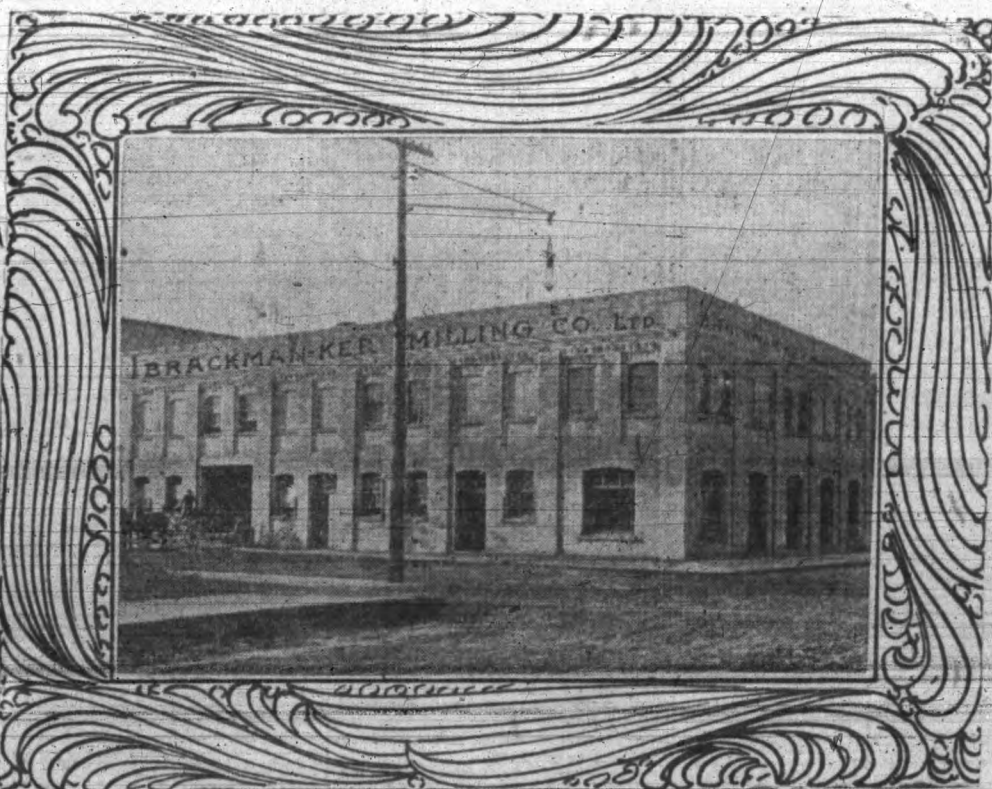
A photo-engraving on another page of this issue shows the light which is now being installed at Pachena by the Dominion government's department of marine and fisheries. It is a dioptric lens light making a revolution every 20 seconds and giving eight flashes in groups of two. Each flash is a beam of light of approximately 400,000 candle-power. The lantern was manufactured by Chance Bros., of Birmingham, England, and is of the latest design. It is operated by clock-work, weighs over 35 tons and will be when completed, one of the finest lights on the whole Pacific coast. The lenses are supported on 900 pounds of mercury to avoid any friction. The light will be seen for a distance of over 20 miles.

YORK AND LANCASTER

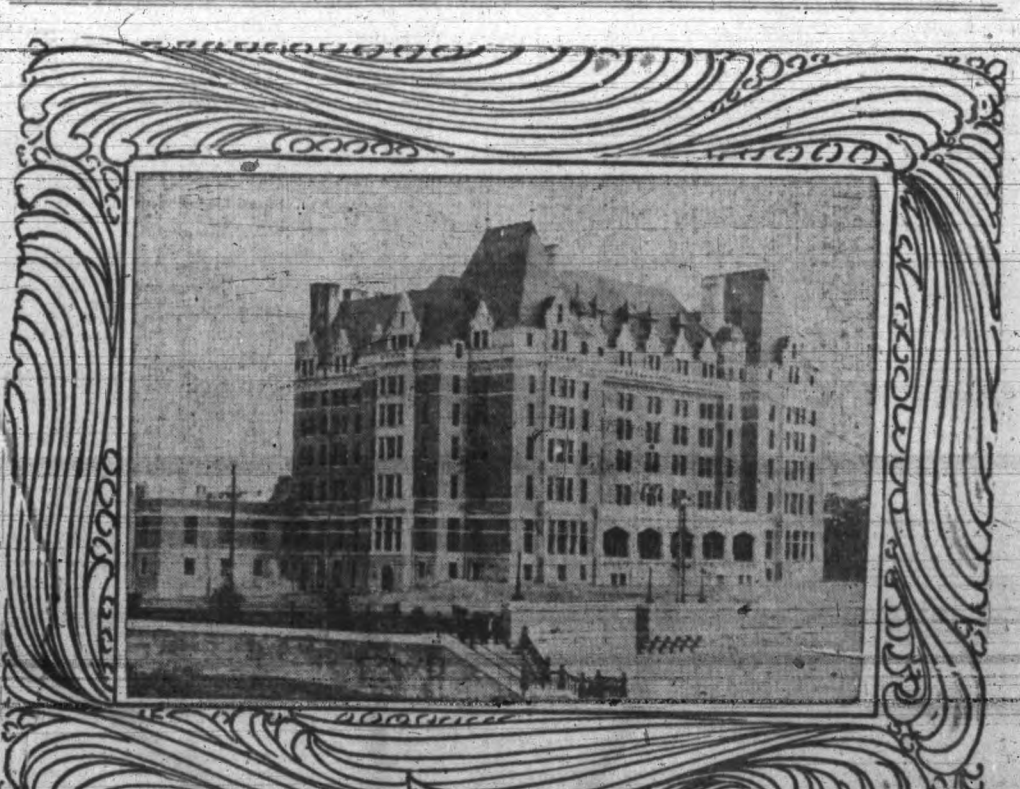
The following lovely bit of verse dates from the quarrels of York and Lancaster, rose after centuries. The War of the Roses was waged between the Houses of York and Lancaster 1455-71. The verses are supposed to have been sent by a Yorkist lover to his Lancastrian mistress, with the gift of a white rose, which was the badge of York.

If this fair rose offend thy sight,
Placed in thy bosom bare,
Twill blush to find itself less white,
And turn Lancastrian there.

But if thy ruby lip is coy,
As kisses it thou mayest deign
With envy pale 'twill lose its dye,
And Yorkist turn again.



BRACKMAN-KER WAREHOUSE ON CORNER BROAD AND PANDORA STREETS.



EMPERESS HOTEL, NOW BEING FURNISHED BY THE C.P.R. COMPANY.

District Fruit Growing

Environs of Victoria Are Being Devoted More and More to the Culture of Fruit

Fruit growing is one of the leading industries of the Victoria district, and the time will come in the near future when the whole south end of Vancouver Island will devote more attention to fruit than it does at present. Already there is a movement in that direction and a movement of this kind always gathers impetus as it progresses.

It is impossible to drive out from Victoria in any direction without being struck by the fine young orchards which have been planted within the last year or two. Every community is interested more or less. Especially is this true of Gordon Head, and in the district around the pumping station of the city waterworks. There the country is being all planted to trees or berries, and it will be only a few years before the whole country within ten or fifteen miles of the city will be one big orchard from which the growers will be making each a good living, and the city of Victoria will benefit to an equal amount as it is here that the money is spent.

It is because of her permanent industries that she is unaffected either by labor troubles or financial stringency that Victoria has scarcely felt the wave of financial stress which has affected other places on this continent. There is to-day little difference in prices of in the

Amount of Business

done to what obtained a few months ago when the boom was said to be in full swing. The ordinary district tends a degree of permanency, and the more the country districts are developed the better for everyone.

Only a few days ago the writer took a drive through the Gordon Head district. There everything is being built. Houses and barns are being built, fences put up, the older places painted and repaired, and there is that air of comfort and prosperity which is not often to be seen unless it is in a place where everyone is making money fast. And this is in a season when the crop of strawberries is not as large as usual. The past season has been an unusually dry one and the spring was unusually late. Every other place the district suffered more or less, but mostly less, for in spite of the poor season, the poorest record in that district, the strawberry crop paid well, and there were splendid crops of almost all other kinds of fruit.

Take, for instance, the strawberry ranch of

W. C. Grant.

He had berries on about ten acres of it, but spaces were left between the rows for draining operations and also for trees to be planted, although for reasons it is not necessary to mention, the trees were not planted. Mr. Grant estimates that not more than nine acres was set to strawberries in the aggregate, yet the sales from this area amounted to three thousand dollars, a very substantial sum to realize in a poor season.

It is not claimed that the whole of the three thousand dollars was profit. The cost of marketing, picking and other out-of-pocket expenses would amount to almost one thousand dollars, but even so, two thousand dollars is not a bad margin for the season's work when the crop is supposed to have been a failure. Mr. Grant is proud of his achievement, and it just shows that the business is a profitable one.

Mr. Grant is not the only person who has done well from strawberry culture. Almost every man in the neighborhood did equally well. Mr. Watson sold over three hundred dollars' worth from every acre and so did many others, so it is safe to say that there was nothing wrong, for farmers have a reputation for telling of their difficulties.

It is not alone in strawberries that success has been achieved.

A. A. Belbeck.

who purchased an orchard from Mr. Grant a year or two ago, has had splendid results from it. He is more than pleased with his purchase. The yield of fruit has been so good that he is putting himself on the back for having seen the value of the industry and taking up Mr. Grant's offer. Gordon Head is particularly suited to strawberry culture, but the people there can raise anything they want. The other fruits all out and ripen splendidly, especially prunes, pears and cherries.

The fruit growers of the Island are now beginning to learn their business. They have not by any means perfected themselves, but they are learning. They

are beginning in some instances to find out that they know very little, and that is a great step in the right direction. These

Packing of the Fruit

has improved to a wonderful extent, but there is still much to learn. While the old split cedar boxes have disappeared from the stores there are still to be seen boxes of fruit of two or three or four grades all mixed together. There are still to be seen fallings put in the same box with picked fruit, but this state of affairs is becoming the exception rather than the rule, and it is safe to say that with the next year there will be few such discrepancies.

There are only a few orchards on the Island as yet that have come to their prime, in fact, many of them are still in the infancy stage. There are a few old orchards, but they were planted with varieties of fruit which have not proved a success in this country. Now that it has been proven beyond a doubt what are

The Best Varieties

to grow, the intelligent class of growers are planting nothing else but those varieties, but of course there are a few men of the class who cannot see that a fruit which was a success in England or Nova Scotia may not be the right thing for this country.

Although there are no orchards which have been able to give the very best results, there are a number which have shown that the growing of fruit is the best possible enterprise for this part of the world. The returns are greater for the amount of capital invested and the energy put into it than in any other line of business that can be mentioned. That there is likely to be an improvement even yet is also probable, for the farmers are realizing that if they are to make this district known and secure the best markets, they must put up their fruit in the best possible manner.

A scheme is now on foot for the erection of packing houses in the district, where the fruit will all be taken and

Packed by Experts.

so that there will be no variation in the grades. This plan must be followed if the fruit is to be marketed to advantage. There will in all probability be a packing house at Gordon Head, and another out towards Royal Oak or perhaps farther north near Happy Valley, and one in the Colwood district, where the orchards are being planted and the land is proving to be extremely well suited to fruit growing.

There is considerable fruit grown in North Saanich, but whether there is enough to warrant the erection of a packing house in the district is not sure. At Duncan they expect to have a packing house in operation in the near future, the growers in that district being most enthusiastic regarding the prospects. Mr. Hayward, M.P.P., and a number of others are interesting themselves in the matter, and it is not at all unlikely that the Cowichan valley may be the leaders in this reform.

Fruit and Produce Exchange

is being seriously considered by the growers of the south end of Vancouver Island. At a recent meeting held in the government buildings the matter was discussed, and a committee appointed to look into it and make recommendations. This committee has already met and will report to a general meeting of the Victoria Fruit Growers' Association to be held early in the new year. It is understood that they will recommend that the association join the central body and do all their business through it next season.

That the farmers would benefit by the marketing of their own fruit through a central exchange seems to be the general opinion of the growers; in fact the scheme has been considered for a long time by many of them, but this is the first time the proposition has taken practical shape. The difficulty has always been that there has been no uniformity of grading in the district. This was a serious drawback, but if the fruit were packed by experts in properly located

Packing Houses

it is the opinion that the difficulty would be overcome. At any rate it is probable that the farmers will decide to make the experiment. They say that it has succeeded almost beyond expectation in many other places, and they cannot understand why they cannot share the advantages which come from co-operation.

The moral of the story is an easy one

to state. It is that those who wish to make money in an independent way in a good healthy occupation should grow fruit. There is still plenty of land left and some of the best has not yet been opened up, but intelligent and industrious men are necessary in this business as well as in any other. The man with some capital, with a moderate amount of intelligence who is willing to learn, and with abundant energy, is the one to adopt fruit growing as a profession.

To give an idea of the amount of fruit sold in Victoria, the following figures have been taken from the books of the local commission men who handle a good deal of it, but it must be remembered that besides the quantities here mentioned a large amount of fruit is being sold to the stores direct, and one or two large growers have shipped most of their produce direct to Vancouver or some other market. The following is the list of the most important varieties:

Plums and prunes, 6,500 crates, each containing 22 lbs.
Apples, 6,000 boxes, each containing 40 lbs.
Pears, 2,800 boxes, each containing 50 lbs.
Cherries, 700 crates, each containing 24 lbs.
Strawberries, 7,200 crates, each containing 24 lbs.

Averaging the price for these conservatively the total value is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15,000. When it is considered that this does not probably amount to more than half of the total output it is quite safe to say that the total value of the fruit grown within a few miles of Victoria would be \$40,000.

These figures perhaps look small to those who have travelled through the Hood River valley or any of the old fruit districts. It must be remembered, however, that the Victoria district has only just been discovered. That most of the orchards are not yet in bearing, and that it takes some time to inspire sufficient confidence to thoroughly develop a district.

During the past year large tracts of land have been subdivided and sold into ten-acre plots and these have been purchased with the purpose of engaging in the fruit growing industry. This will mean a very large increase in the industry during the next few years. On many of these plots the permanence of the business is assured. A good many of the apples this season have been taken from four and five-year trees. These will in two or three years at least quadruple the output without counting the other orchards that have not yet commenced to yield at all.

BARBAROUS FORTUNES.

Grave Scandal Has Arisen Over Administration of Asylum in United States.

The New York correspondent of the London Daily News telegraphs that that city is threatened with a grave scandal in connection with the administration of the insane asylum on Wards Island, where there are a very large number of affected patients.

A series of shocking allegations have been made to the district attorney, Mr. Jerome, who is investigating them. They are set out in horrible detail, and if proved, will put in the shade all the charges made against the management of other asylums a year or two ago. According to the charges patients who were found troublesome were fastened in strait-jackets in such attitudes that the positions meant torture to them. They were left for days in these attitudes. Others were

scalded. In some cases the patients died after the beatings had been administered. The attendants, it is further alleged, are recruited from the worst quarters of the Bowery, and they include ex-convicts, thugs, drunkards, and men of other notoriously brutal character. The charges have raised a great outcry here, and, if proved, exemplary punishment will be demanded for the guilty officials.

Rabbits, says a naturalist, have white tails so that the young may be able to distinguish their mother in case of pursuit. The color of a rabbit is so like that of the ground that it would otherwise be difficult, if not impossible.

As a general rule, a man's hair turns gray five years earlier than that of a woman.

tuce grown and exported. A good deal of this is placed on the Winnipeg market and it also goes as far north as Fairbanks, in Alaska, and Dawson in the Canadian Yukon. This is a wide field to cover with all the intermediate points, and it takes many acres of glass to do it. A. J. Woodward & Co. have at Ross Bay, within the city limits, glass houses which cover five acres, and the Fairview Nurseries have two acres. Wilkerson & Brown have almost as much as the Fairview, and intend to enlarge, and there are a number of other florists that do a big business, both local and export.

Nearly all the florists have gardens of their own, and a good many have conservatories, yet the florists do a good trade, some of the smaller houses devoting themselves wholly to that department. The fact that the residents want to raise flowers makes them also ready to buy them when they have none themselves.

That the florist business is capable of very extensive development is clear. There is a big demand for flowers in the cold climate of the prairies, which cannot be satisfied by local growers, as the cost of heating is too great. In Victoria usually the thermometer is above the freezing point, except for a week or two now and then when it falls a few degrees below. There are numbers of towns in Alberta, and the other prairie provinces, where there is not a florist in town and where if the business were cultivated it could be worked up to good dimensions.

BRITISH OUTPOSTS.

Curious Facts About Distant Possessions of the Empire.

There was issued from the British Board of Trade recently a bulky volume of statistical tables relating to the British colonies and possessions as they stood in 1905. The tables give the details of what has already been published in summarized form. In re-



THE MERCHANTS BANK, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT CORNER OF DOUGLAS AND YATES STREETS FROM PLANS BY P. M. RATTENBURY, ARCHITECT.

Past Year's Customs

Marked Increase Shown Over Corresponding Period of Previous Twelve Months

The statistics from the customs house relative to the clearances and entries during the year are not available at the present time, but the officials state that the tonnage for the past twelve months will reach a very high total.

The constantly increasing cargoes which the ocean lines are bringing to these waters, account in a large measure for the inflation of the receipts on dutiable goods, although the large amount of revenue derived from Chinese taxes is very largely responsible. Just what progress has been made at the port in the way of increased trade can be found by a comparison of the receipts for duties during the corresponding months of this and last year.

Although the complete returns for the year are not yet available, the customs receipts for 1907 promise to eclipse all former totals. Up to the end of November the receipts totalled \$1,272,730 against \$798,096 for the corresponding period in 1906. The increase for the year over last year will be somewhere in the neighborhood of half-a-million dollars at least, which furnishes an index to the growth of the shipping at

this port in the present time of sound prosperity.

The tables printed below give the figures for the eleven months ending November 30th for the last two years.

Month	Duties, Chinese, Rev.	Other
January	\$1,758,754	\$1,510,000
February	\$2,085,800	\$1,500,000
March	\$2,974,229	\$2,000,000
April	\$3,077,732	\$2,016,000
May	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
June	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
July	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
August	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
September	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
October	\$3,094,371	\$2,029,000
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Grand total	\$1,272,730	\$798,096

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ers of the floral glories which beautify the houses of those who can afford to raise or purchase them. These are all raised in Victoria during their season and exported south to Seattle, Tacoma and the other cities near by. There are also large quantities of these sold in Vancouver and inland points as far east as Winnipeg.

Winnipeg is the only place on the coast where flowers can be raised for export with profit. The large amount of sunshine is shown by the meteorological reports, but these do not intimate in any way what it means to the grower. It is the floral statistics which show better than anything else what can be done when there is a sufficiency of sunshine for the purpose.

Besides the thousands of dollars worth of cut flowers which are annually exported, there are also many hundreds of tons of tomatoes and let-

Island Dairying Grows

This Department of Farming Receiving More Attention—Excellent Butter Produced

Outside of those who make a specialty of fruit growing, those who make a living from the land on Vancouver Island are engaged in mixed farming. Dairying is the most important feature of this, and consequently the most important source of wealth. The farmers depend upon their cows for their livelihood, the other lines providing the luxuries. Because of this it is quite natural that the breed of cows should receive a good deal of attention.

The Island is divided into several different farming districts, which are quite separate and distinct. There is the Victoria district with a creamery just outside of the city; the Saanich district with its creamery at Sidney; the Cowichan Valley with a creamery at Duncan; and the Comox district with a creamery at Courtenay. Besides these on Vancouver Island there is a creamery at North Saanich, and a small one at Spring Island.

The smaller islands of the gulf, all of these districts are larger and capable of a good deal of expansion as the land becomes cleared up, and thus larger areas are brought into cultivation. Very few farms have more than two spots, cleared, perhaps ten or twenty acres out of several hundred. When these have brought the other part under cultivation it can easily be estimated what the expansion of wealth must be.

Between Nanaimo and Comox is a belt of some of the best land in the world which needs only the stumps and timber cleared away to make it a country of exceeding richness, where farmers and fruit growers will go in and make sufficient wealth to keep up another large city. North of Comox there is even more and the wealth of the Island in those places is incalculable like all across at the west coast of Alberni and numerous other points there are large agricultural areas which have only just been touched and where very little of the land is cleared. At the north end of the Island too the land is almost all level and fit for agriculture. The attention of the world is being drawn to these lands and the time is already in the hands of capitalists who intend to develop it. Following the logging off will come the clearing of the land, and these large

areas will be more or less contingent to the city of Victoria, with which they will be connected both by rail and by steamboat.

Cultivate all the lands above mentioned and there will be enough produced to feed all the people in British Columbia and fruit to supply a considerable part of the population of the prairies. With this agricultural development will come, however, the development of the mining areas of the Island, and these will take the produce of the farmer; thus ensuring the farmers forever a ready market right at their doors.

The farmers of Vancouver Island are very proud of their herds of cattle. The Jersey is the favorite, and cattle from the Island farms can always meet with out, or at any rate take their share of the prizes awarded. There are many of these dairies where the herds would even compare favorably with those of the old country. There is no longer any need for British Columbia to send east for its pure bred stock, unless it be for the purpose of introducing new blood now and then for the purpose of preventing too much inbreeding. The opposite is becoming the case. Dairymen on the Island are commencing to export their thoroughbred stock and they are being recognized as the best in all the west.

The quality of the butter made in the Island creameries is the best made anywhere. This is evidenced by the fact that in the Victoria market the Island butter realizes from five to ten cents a pound more than any other brands, and even in Vancouver many expert buyers call for Island butter in preference to any other on the market. It is not a question of winning a prize with a specially prepared pound or two, but it is winning the market with the daily output at every season of the year.

These are facts and the inference is clear. Vancouver Island has within itself the source of immense wealth if that is only developed. A commencement has been made sufficient to prove the value of the part yet undeveloped. It has been shown that the best possible butter can be made and that in paying quantities. Those who have large dairies are among the most wealthy and influential members of the Island communities, and the influence of such people is bound to increase as the years roll by.

DOMINION LINES

Not least among the many public benefits which the Dominion government, in a series of comprehensive schemes, has conferred on Vancouver Island during 1907 is the extension and improvement of its telegraph and telephone service under the control of the public works department.

A few weeks ago the operation of the west coast line from Victoria to Cape Beale was taken over from the C. P. R. telegraph department, which had previously worked it for the government, and an office was established in the postoffice building. The service is now being reorganized and improved, extra linemen are at work keeping the line in order, many extensions are either under way or contemplated and arrangements are being made to have the line placed along the coast trail as soon as the latter is completed.

The utility of the government's scheme is at once apparent when a detailed list of its lines and additions are compared with a map of this Island. The service now embraces nearly all the outlying points lying in an inverted triangle with Victoria as the apex and Mosquito Harbor and Comox as the opposing angles. Besides this telephone and telegraph communication is available between this city and several of the more important islands in the Straits of Georgia. An extension of the Alberni line is being built between Clayoquot and Mosquito Harbor and the Union Bay and Denman Island and Salt Spring Island extensions are now both under way.

At present the telephone and telegraph lines of the Dominion government's service on the Island total between 350 and 400 miles and, when the extensions are completed, the total will be considerably greater.

One of the most noteworthy features of the government's operation of the Victoria and Cape Beale line is the fact that a daily service of shipping reports is now supplied free of charge to the public. The signalling stations at

Cape Beale and Carmanah report three times a day, at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., and the reports are bulletined in the postoffice building opposite the telegraph office.

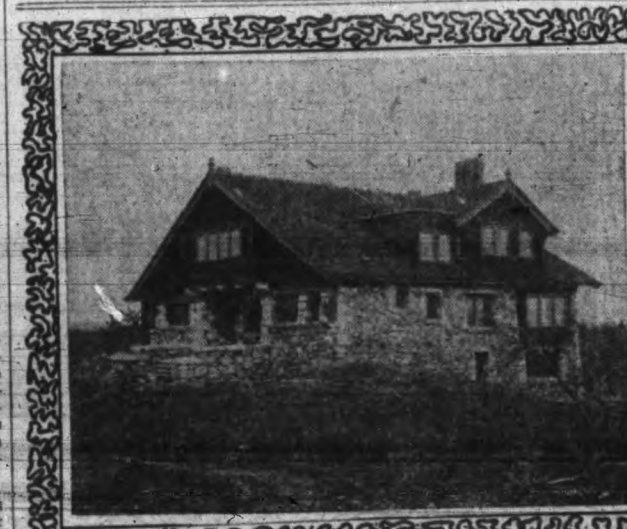
In order that the extent of the government telegraph service, covering as it does territory that would scarcely have tempted a private revenue-seeking corporation to exploit, may be properly appreciated, the following list of lines is given:

Victoria to Cape Beale, telegraph and telephone service; distance, 118 miles. This line starts from the postoffice building and runs to Cape Beale by way of Sooke, Otter Point, Jordan River, Port Renfrew, Carmanah and Clooose. Alberni and Cape Beale telegraph service connects with Victoria and Cape Beale service; distance, 54 miles. Alberni to Clayoquot telegraph service; distance, 21 miles. This line runs through to Clayoquot with offices at Uchucklaht, Toquart and Uluclut. Alberni to Nanaimo telegraph service; distance, 55 miles. This line has offices at Parksville, 30 miles from Alberni, and at Wellington.

Comox service. This line branches off at Parksville from the main line, between Nanaimo and Alberni. There are offices at Nanaimo, Qualicum, Union Bay, Cumberland and Courtenay. Duncan to Ganges Harbor. This telephone service is in operation with offices at Maple Bay, Chisholms, South Salt Spring and Ganges Harbor.

The extensions now under way, which will be completed at the earliest possible date, are as follows: Clayoquot to Mosquito Harbor; distance, 10 miles. Union Bay to Denman and Hornby Islands. Salt Spring and Pender Islands extension.

The telephone service at present in operation from Duncan, where it connects with the long-distance telephone service from Victoria, is to be extended through South Salt Spring and Ganges Harbor to Pender Island. New offices are to be opened at Beaver Point, on Salt Spring Island, and at Browning Harbor and Hope Bay, in Pender Island.



RESIDENCE OF J. J. SHALLCROSS, SHOTBOLT'S HILL. S. McCLURT, ARCHITECT.



BISHOP'S PALACE, VIEW STREET—HOOPER AND WATKINS, ARCHITECTS.

FLORICULTURE

Victoria is able to market her sunshine to good effect both in the winter and summer. The sunshine is exported in chemical combination with carbon dioxide, in the form of beautiful flowers, ripe tomatoes, and early lettuce. These are produced in profusion at all seasons, and the whole coast region is supplied during the winter when it is almost impossible to grow them elsewhere.

Take for instance the flowers such as carnations, chrysanthemums, indoor sweetpeas, violets and the queen of flowers, the rose, for which the city is noted. Incidentally, too, there are the hyacinths, lilies of the valley, and other

HERRING FISHING RECORD.

Official figures of the season's herring catch at Yarmouth, England, show that all records have been broken, although there has been a week's wet weather for the fishing is ended. Up to Saturday no fewer than 12,595 tons of herrings had been landed, equal to 630,000 fish. The record year had hitherto been 1902, when the total was 44,000 tons. Some three hundred thousand barrels of cured herrings have been shipped from Yarmouth to Northern Europe by sixty steamers, all loaded during the past month; and besides thousands of barrels of smoked fish have been consigned to the Mediterranean—London Exchange.

The directors of the Flaxmill mint will establish an industrial institute in that city with a capital of \$50,000 (C\$5,000) to be supplied by the mint without outside assistance. The institute will manufacture towels, handkerchiefs, buttons, cotton thread and various other articles in demand among the Chinese.

A Pleasing Christmas Story for Children

A Wonderful Cruise Made by Bibby-Babs Through the Fog With Noah's Ark

It was a fearful fog, one of the worst there had been this winter—not a black fog, like a big umbrella up in the sky, but a yellow, cotton-wool fog that filled the streets and the garden and the park, and trickled in through the windows and the doors, so that Bibby-Babs could not go out to see the little boys and big boys sailing boats on the Round Pond; and the little boys and big boys could not sail their boats, for they would never have seen them again,

and every now and then a big, round cotton-wool wave of fog came thump, splash against the wall, and made shiny trees and flowers of the glass. And then an extra big wave smashed the window, just as Bibby-Babs did once with her elbow, only much more, and rolled into the room; and the cat began to sail about just as the little boys and the big boys' boats did, on the Round Pond, and went bobbing away to the window.

ing, just as Daddy did at home. "My love," he called, and a lady came out. She was in a red gown like Mr. Noah, and had a round black hat; but she went in at the middle like Mamma, so of course Bibby-Babs knew she was again! "Mr. Noah said, just like Daddy when the buttons came off his waistcoat. "Why didn't you give me a Rhinoceros?"

"It doesn't matter," said Mrs. Noah, "and it jumped away quite happy; but first it went up to Bibby-Babs and rubbed its nose against her hand, because she had been polite to it and called it an Antelope.

"And now," said Mr. Noah, smiling all over his pink, painty face, "let me introduce you to my family. These are Mr. Sheep and Mrs. Sheep, in yellow. He is the father of Mr. Abraham Moses, who keeps the pretty fruit shop and shuts it up on Saturday's. These are Mr. and Mrs. Ham, in green. Mr. Ham is all pink and painty, like me, but he is the father of the nice black men who sing on the sands at the seaside. And these are Mr. and Mrs. Japhet, in blue, and they are the father and mother of your Daddy and most of the people you know."

Bibby-Babs was always polite (when she remembered), and she courted to all the family, and they bowed till they nearly tumbled over, for they were made that way, and smiled all over their pink, painty faces.

"And now," said Mr. Noah, "you will like to see the animals. Here is the Elephant. He is not quite so big as he ought to be, but we haven't room. He isn't like a real elephant, you see, if you don't step on him. Here is the Spider. He is a great deal bigger than he ought to be, but you couldn't see him if he wasn't. He doesn't live long, because his legs all get broken, and then we have to pretend he is somebody else."

The Spider winked his painted eye, and ran after what he took for a fly. Mr. Noah caught him by one of his legs.

"Stupid!" he said, smiling all over his pink, painty face. "You never remember that this is the Vampire Bat. If you weren't wood he'd soon show you the difference."

The Spider shrank away into a dark corner. Insects never like being laughed at.

"Here are my stables," said Mr. Noah, pulling aside a brown-paper curtain. "Two Gee-gees, Mr. Donkey and Mrs. Donkey. On the log-book they

down, and she was glad, because now she knew what he meant.

"I tell you what!" Mr. Noah added: "I'll just look up to the window, and you can get in and ask Nurse if you can go to the races, and if she says you may, you come back. My love!" he called, just like Daddy, "quick! the Rhinoceros!"

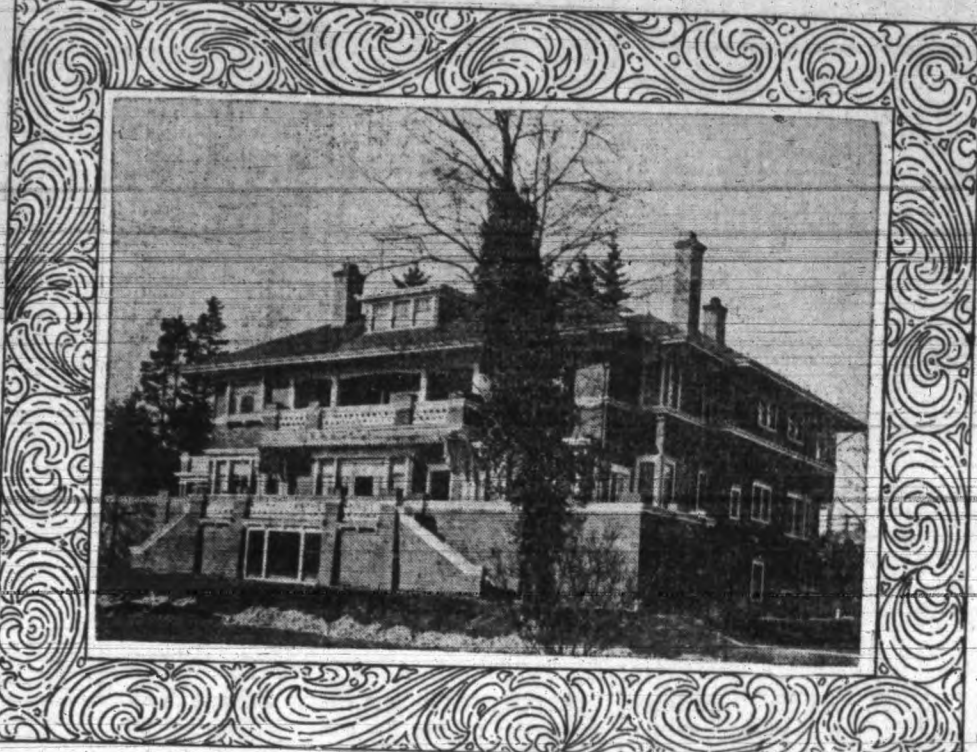
Mrs. Noah came out with an animal, and Mr. Noah, without looking at it,

she might see the races, she heard Mr. Noah say, very angrily, "Shiver my timber!" just like Daddy when he knocked over his tea-cup, only that Daddy said something else, because he wasn't a sailor-man.

And Bibby-Babs looked, and what Mr. Noah had wasn't the Rhinoceros, but the poor little Shammy, and the horn had come out again, because the glue wasn't hard yet, and this time

tighten his lips throughout a dissertation delivered by a youthful enthusiast, and, at the end of the oration, carefully and deliberately assert that "Victoria's not the port it used to be."

His authority for this remark, should one care to ask it, will be the steady decline through recent years of the sailing industry, and the consequent disappearance of the true salt-water atmosphere that once surrounded the



HOME OF ROBIN DUNSMUIR, ESQUIMALT ROAD.—S. MacLure, Architect.



RESIDENCE OF S. J. PITTS, ROCKLAND AVE.—S. MacLure, Architect.

since the Bad Man on the other side of the pond would have waited for them and stolen them, and the policeman could never have caught him, for even a policeman cannot catch a Bad Man unless he sees him, and not always then.

Even in the nursery, with a big fire full of little twittering flames, the fog came in, so that Nurse had to click on all the little lights that lived in glass bottles, and Bibby-Babs could not see the kitten, when it was sitting in the shadow, because the kitten was black, and so was the shadow. But still, Bibby-Babs was not very cross—a little cross, of course, for the fog got into her eyes and nose and mouth, and it was annoying not to see where the kitten's tail was. But she would not be very cross, because Mamma had told her that somebody was coming to-morrow morning, and if she was very cross he wouldn't come.

Bibby-Babs was afraid that Mr. Somebody would not find his way in the fog, for she was going to have a tea-party in the nursery, and all the mammals of her friends had been talking through the queer little spout in the wall that spoke to you when you took the sheep off the hook, and had said that her friends could not find the house in that fog; and that made Bibby-Babs rather cross, but not very cross, because she wanted Mr. Somebody to come.

And when Bibby-Babs was put to her cot, and said her prayers and went to sleep, and the little lights went to sleep in their bottles, because that was where they lived, the last thing she heard was a bang-banging in the cotton-wool fog; and she was told that it was a poor puff-puff trying to find his way home in the fog to a nice tea of coal and hot water; and she wondered if Mr. Somebody was on the puff-puff.

When she opened her eyes, or she thought she opened her eyes, she heard a roaring sound like the noise the great big sea made when it knocked down her castles in the summer. But it was not the sea; it was the fog. She could see it quite plainly through the window,

Just as Bibby-Babs was making up her mind to be very much afraid, a big voice from the window called her.

"Come on board, Bibby-Babs," it said; "I can't hold on much longer!"

And then there was a great thump on the wall, not like the fog-waves, but more wooden, and she could see a big something floating on the fog-sea just outside the window. It was rather like a house on top, with a steep-up, shiny, painted roof, and windows with nice blinds painted in them, and it was rather like the big boats the sailor-men used to sit on and smoke at the sea-side, but all red and yellow and green; and a man was holding it up to the window-sill. Only he hadn't a spiky, hooked pole to hold by, but an animal something like a goat, with hokey horns, and he was hanging on by its hind legs, and the animal was hanging on by its horns, upside down. And the man was dressed in a long red coat something like Daddy's dressing gown; only he was not like Daddy at all, but had a round, pink face, with round, black eyes and hardly any nose, and he was all straight down the front, and did not stick out like Daddy.

"Are you Mr. Somebody?" said Bibby-Babs. She did not always seem quite like grown-up people, but to-night she was talking just like her Mamma, which shows what she could do when she tried.

"I am Mr. Noah, and I've been a Somebody in my time," said the pink, painty man. "But never mind that. Jump in, for his horns won't hold on much longer! They call him an Antelope on the ship's books, but he isn't—he's only a Shammy. Jump!"

So Bibby-Babs jumped, and only just in time, for one of the Shammy's horns came out of his head, and Mr. Noah caught it with one hand while he put the animal right side up with the other.

"Oh, poor little Shammy, for she was always polite when she remembered. It's nothing," said Mr. Noah; and he opened the door in the side of his queer boat without knocking or sing-



RESIDENCE OF R. WILSON, ROCKLAND AVE.—S. MacLure, Architect.

the door, and Bibby-Babs and Mr. Noah came after, for the fog was splashing all over the deck. Then Mr.

are down as Ass and Shi-Ass. That is what they suppose to be English. I assure you she doesn't shy at all. There are my Zebras. I've only two, but I'm not a Rothschild. Then, of course, there are Camels and Lions and Chameleons; and there is the farmyard. I'm rather proud of my fowls; and there's a prize Pig. I beg your pardon, it's one of those bits again!"

"Don't they ever go out?" asked Bibby-Babs.

"Not much," Mr. Noah admitted; "at least, not while I have charge of them. There's so little room on deck, and it interferes with my wife's washing. You see, we all wash, for we're painted in oils. But when the fog goes down a little I shall have our annual Christmas Race for the prize."

"What is the prize?" said Bibby-Babs.

"The Good Wood Cup, of course," answered Mr. Noah; "and after the Cup we have a Ball."

As he spoke there came a big wooden thump on the top of the roof, and Bibby-Babs started.

"It's only the Dove," said Noah, smiling nearly round his pink, painty head. "She's come to tell us the fog's clearing. Let's go outside and see."

They went out on the deck of the Ark, and lo! the big, round, cotton-wool waves were all quiet, and they were floating just outside Home, with the tree-tops showing all round.

"You see," said Mr. Noah, "we've come back again. There is the nursery window."

"But it was all broke to bits," said Bibby-Babs, "and now it's all mended up."

"Nurse," answered Mr. Noah, "when the weather was bad the glass went down, but now it's fine the glass has gone up again."

Bibby-Babs had often heard her Daddy talk about the glass going up or

quite easily, though it was too heavy for her by day, and climbed in. But just as she was going to ask Nurse if

the horn had fallen into the fog; and the Ark was floating far away over the garden wall.

So Bibby-Babs got into her cot, because it was cold, and cried herself to sleep because she was so sorry for the poor Shammy, and for not going to the races.

And when she woke up on Christmas morning there was bright sun and no fog, only a little pool of mist in the garden; and the poor, puff-puffs had all gone home; and Daddy and Mamma were wishing her a Merry Christmas; and at the foot of the bed was the Ark; just as it had been, only bigger, and the door wouldn't open, so you had to take the wall out.

And there were Mr. Noah and his wife and all his family, smiling all over their pink, painty faces, and the Elephant and the Gee-gees and the How-wows, and the Spider that was too big, and the Dove that bumped on the roof; and last of all, there was a little animal that Daddy didn't know. "Let's see," he said; "this must be the Antelope. I think." But Bibby-Babs knew better.

"Oh Daddy," she said; "I'm sure it's poor little Shammy, and its horn's broke."

And, sure enough, when Daddy looked at the log-book there was "Shammy," printed there, which must be English or Shammy, or Shammy, for English.

And Daddy said he would mend the horn when he found it; but he never found it.

Of course it had floated away in the fog, but Bibby-Babs didn't tell her Daddy.

You can't tell Daddies everything.

THE SEALING CATCH.

While, in that expansive sense singularly characteristic of the present day of steam-tonnage and great freights, we may truthfully speak of Victoria's growing importance as a seaport, our generalizations, however apt, will fail to assure many old salts of the fact. More than one "ancient mariner" will

harbor. A glance at the fleet of old schooners that lies off Point Ellice bridge in various stages of decay reveals a sorry picture, which eloquently, though silently, testifies, in part, to the truth of such an assertion.

The decadence of what was, at a time not very long past, one of the chief industries of this port, has been brought about by causes which have been so often and so fully dealt with as to make repetition wearisome. During the last year the catch fell to the miserable total of slightly over 5,000 skins and the number of vessels engaged in the business dropped to fifteen. Even in 1906, an exceptionally poor year, the catch was double that of the past year although only two more schooners left port.

The most notable decrease was in the Behring sea catch, which fell off from 6,234 to 2,858. The total number of pelts taken during the year 1906 was 10,770, while this year the full catch was only 5,397.

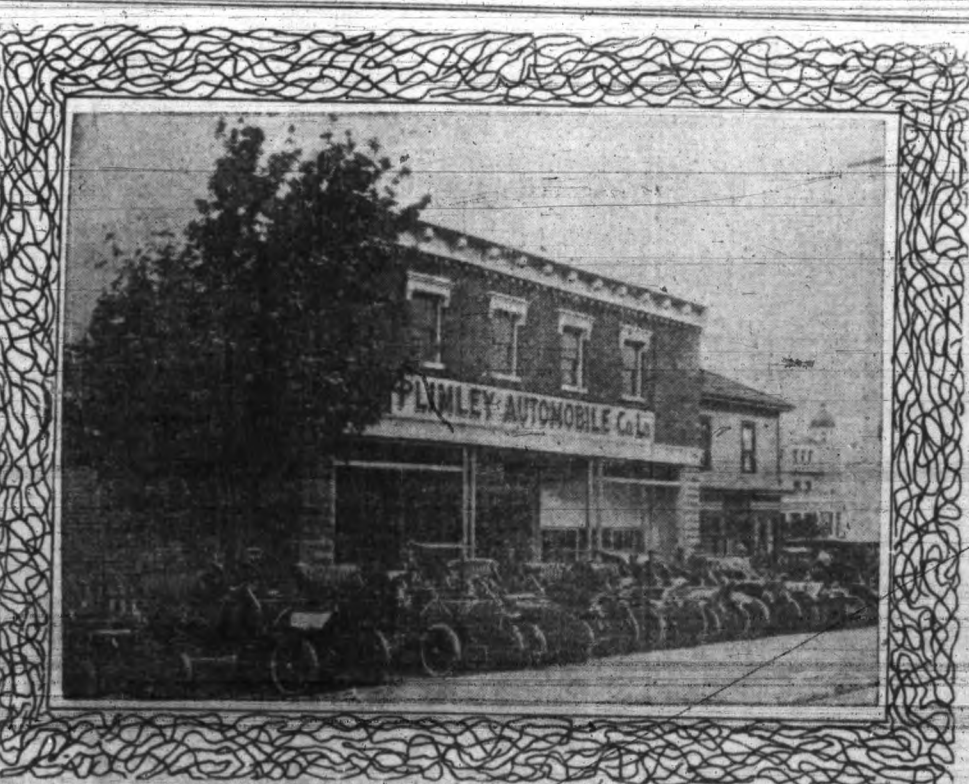
The following table gives the catch in detail:

	Skins.
B. C. Coast	1,324
Copper Islands	448
Behring Sea	2,538
Taken by Indians	157
Total	5,397

Also 88 sea-otter skins.

Below is a list of the schooners engaged this year with their respective catches:

Schooner	B. C. Coast	Behring	Total
Allie T. Alger	46	196	242
Carlotta G. Cox	123	133	256
Casco	21	21	42
Dora Seward	70	472	542
Ella G.	16	77	93
Eva Marie	151	24	175
Ida Rita	216	415	631
Jessie	50	34	84
Lubbig	101	301	402
Markland	127	266	393
Olga	72	274	346
Thos. P. Bayard	172	486	658
Umbrina	194	484	678
Vera	208	238	446
Victoria	109	148	257
Total	1,324	448	2,538



PLIMLEY'S GARAGE AND AUTOS.



HUTCHISON BROS. WORKS.

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS

THE B. C. HARDWARE CO.

Takes this opportunity to Offer Seasonable Christmas Goods at Greatly Reduced Prices. The Articles enumerated below serve to show the sweeping reductions which are being made in many of our lines.

Ranges

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
"HER MAJESTY" RANGE,					
No. 8, with warming closet, size of oven 20 x 20 x 13, weight 450 lbs., each	\$65.00	\$47.50	"HER MAJESTY" RANGE,		
			No. 8, without closet, size of oven 20 x 20 x 13, weight 400 lbs.	\$50.00	\$39.50
These Ranges are guaranteed satisfactory. They are asbestos lined and are manu- factured by the Buck Stove Company, Brantford, Ont.					
"BLACK BEAUTY" Steel Range, with high shelf					
				\$16.00	\$14.50
This is a serviceable Range for a small family.					

Steel Table Knives and Forks

REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
No. 132, per doz.	\$4.25 \$2.00	No. 172, per doz.	\$3.25 \$1.75
No. 3325, per doz.	5.75 3.50	No. 4159, per doz.	3.50 1.75

Enamelware

We were never in a better position to supply your wants in this line.

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			PRESERVING KETTLES, No.		
36	\$ 1.15	\$.90	24	\$.40	.30
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			CEREAL COOKERS, No. 103	1.15	.90
34 .....	.85	.70	STOCK POTS WITH BRASS		
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			TAPS, No. 3600	6.50	5.20
32 .....	.70	.60	STOCK POTS WITH BRASS		
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			TAPS, No. 180	5.50	4.40
30 .....	.65	.50	MILK AND RICE BOILERS,		
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			No. 54	1.25	1.00
28 .....	.60	.45	MILK AND RICE BOILERS,		
PRESERVING KETTLES, No.			No. 53	1.00	.80
26 .....	.50	.40			

20 PER CENT. DISCOUNT OFF ALL GRANITEWARE NOT LISTED DURING DECEMBER

Carvers

100 Sets of Carvers to choose from, assorted, in Polished Oak English made cases, also in Morocco Leather cases, lines with silk and plush.

REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
5-PIECE SETS, with Buck Horn Handles and Sterling Silver ferrules and tips, best Sheffield Steel Blades			
\$17.00	\$12.75	3-PIECE GAME SETS, I X L Brand, with genuine Buck Horn Handles and Sterling Silver Mountings	
		\$7.75	\$5.80
4-PIECE SETS, with Ivory Handles, Sterling Silver Mountings, best English make			
11.50	8.05	2-PIECE FISH SETS, with lovely Pearl Handles, Silver Plated Blades and Sterling Silver Mountings	
		13.00	9.75
3-PIECE SETS, I X L Brand, with genuine Buck Horn Handles and Sterling Silver Mountings			
10.00	7.50	Also 25 other styles with Ivory and Buck Horn Handles, beautifully mounted, best Sheffield make, from \$4.00 to \$20.00.	

Heaters

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
WINNER OAK COAL HEATERS, No. 14	\$16.00	\$13.50	PRIME COAL HEATERS, No. 11	\$11.00	\$ 8.50
ALBERTA OAK COAL HEATERS, No. 15	\$13.00	\$11.00	PRIME COAL HEATERS, No. 10	\$ 9.50	\$ 7.00
These Heaters are Unexcelled Values.					

These Heaters are Unexcelled Values.

Roger's Famous 1847 Goods

These Goods are all Plated on Nickel Silver.

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
TABLE SPOONS, per doz. . . .	\$ 8.00	\$ 7.00	MEDIUM FORKS, per doz. . .	\$ 8.00	\$ 7.00
DESSERT SPOONS, per doz. . .	7.00	6.00	DESSERT FORKS, per doz. . .	7.00	6.00
TEA SPOONS, per doz.	4.00	3.00			

EXTRA HEAVY SILVER PLATED GOODS, CLASSIC PATTERN, 25 YEAR GUARANTEE.

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
TABLE SPOONS, per doz. . .	\$13.00	\$10.00	TEA SPOONS, per doz.	\$ 6.50	\$ 5.00
DESSERT SPOONS, per doz. .	12.00	9.00	DESSERT FORKS, per doz. .	13.00	10.00

COLONIAL SILVER PLATE, 5 YEAR GUARANTEE.

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
TABLE SPOONS, per doz. .	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.75	MEDIUM FORKS, per doz. .	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.75
DESSERT SPOONS, per doz. .	5.00	3.75	DESSERT FORKS, per doz. .	5.00	3.75
TEA SPOONS, per doz.	3.00	2.25			

Pocket Cutlery

200 DIFFERENT STYLES OF WOSTENHOLMS & HUMPHREY'S BEST SHEFFIELD BRANDS OF POCKET KNIVES FOR XMAS GIFTS

REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
GENTLEMEN'S PEARL HANDLE POCKET KNIFE, with nickel plated tips, brass nickel plated linings, with large and small blades, cork screw and champagne opener			
\$2.50	\$1.90	GENTLEMEN'S VEST POCKET KNIFE, with Mother-of-Pearl Handle, Nail File, Scissors, and large and small Blade	
		2.50	1.90
GENTLEMEN'S VEST POCKET KNIFE, with all Pearl handle and nickel plated lining, nail file and three Blade			
\$2.50	\$1.90	LADIES' PEARL HANDLE KNIFE, with Brass Linings, large and small Blades and Scissors	
		1.00	.75
LADIES' PEARL HANDLE KNIFE, with Brass Linings, Button Hook, large Blade and Two Small Blades			
		.75	.60

We have many OTHER STYLES with Pearl, Bone and Buck Horn Handles, beautifully finished, ranging from 25c. to \$2.50.

WE ALSO HAVE A LARGE AMOUNT OF POCKET CUTLERY OF THE FAMOUS JOSEPH RODGERS & CO'S MANUFACTURE

	REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE		REG. PRICE	DEC. PRICE
No. 1547 KNIVES, each	\$.50	\$.30	No. 2561 KNIVES, each ....	.50	.30
No. 2636 KNIVES, each ....	.65	.40	No. 5140 KNIVES, each ....	.75	.50
No. 714 KNIVES, each ....	.75	.50			

You Will Find Samples of the Above Numbers Displayed in Our Broad Street Window. Watch for Them.

We are Importers of and Dealers in Bar Iron, Pipe, De Laval Cream Separators, Fencing, Agricultural Implements, Gasoline Engines, Windmills, etc.

B. C. HARDWARE COMPANY,

PHONE 82. COR. YATES AND BROAD STS. P. O. BOX 683

MUSICAL XMAS PRESENTS

THE FINEST STOCK OF MUSICAL MER-
CHANDISE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

PIANOS { Bluthner, Gerhard Heintzman, Karn, Martin-
Orme, Mendelssohn, Estey

PLAYER PIANOS--Cecelian, Estey, Simplex, Sohmer

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AND A SPLENDID STOCK OF

SHEET MUSIC
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MUSIC BOXES
VIOLINS
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BANJOS
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MOUTH ORGANS
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RECORD CABINETS
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STANDS AND CRANES

DON'T FORGET OUR GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT OFFER!

WE are giving away Free on the evening of January 31st, 1908, 10 Beautiful Aluminum Tone-Arm Disc Talking Machines. With every 50c purchase at our store prior to that date, we give you a ticket which entitles you to a chance at this great drawing to win one of these fine machines. Should the holder of a winning number already own a talking machine we will give 50 records instead.

FLETCHER BROTHERS, 93' Government Street.

Preparing the Lands

Methods Adopted in Clearing Heavily
Timbered Areas for the Foundations
of Happy Communities

The clearing of land is a problem which affects the general prosperity of the coast more perhaps than any other no matter in what line of business or development. The stability of the country, the production of wealth, the growth of cities, in fact, the whole question of commercial advancement depends to a very large extent on the amount of land that is available for agricultural pursuits.

Everyone knows that the land of British Columbia is fertile beyond any other in the world, that it produces immense crops when properly cultivated, and that thousands of people are looking this way with the hope of finding suitable places on which to settle. They can get the land cheap enough, but the difficulty is that large areas of it are covered with immense stumps which must be removed before the farmer can enter into his heritage.

For years the settlers toiled their lives away clearing small patches by hand, but as the prairies became desolate people objected to working so hard in order to make homes for themselves. Then it was that the fertile brain of some experienced logger in the state of Washington evolved the

idea of dragging out the stumps with logging engines.

The way in which it is done is as follows: A gin pole is erected in the centre of an eight or ten-acre plot and firmly guyed. At a distance of about one hundred feet, more or less, the donkey engine is anchored. The cable is passed from the engine through a pulley at the top of the gin pole and attached on the opposite side to one of the stumps, or a part of one after the stump has been split with stump-powder. Then the engine is set in motion and the stump is torn from its position and hauled to the foot of the gin pole. The operation is constantly repeated until all the stumps have been piled in an immense heap, the whole of the ten acres being cleared and piled in one place. When everything is dry a match is applied and the land is cleared.

This is the manner of clearing being adopted by the Canadian Pacific railway with their lands on Vancouver Island, and in places on the mainland of the province. A company formed for the purpose has in hand a plan for clearing ten thousand acres of the Vancouver Island lands in this manner every year, and this will be placed on the market at such prices and on such

terms that it will be available to everyone wishing to make the island their home.

Several small attempts have been made to adopt the donkey engine system of clearing land by private parties, but with no very marked success. The difficulty has been in the matter of transportation and in having men in charge who understand the business.

Anyone who has never had experience in logging is sure to break the tackle all to pieces and to make but small progress. With suitable machinery, however, and with competent men, the engine will entirely supplant hand labor in tearing out the big stumps and making the fertile land ready for the plow.

The policy which the C. P. R. seems to have in view on Vancouver Island is one of creating business for the line of railway now owned by it, the E. & N. by development of industries. The timber industry alone will not be sufficient, but the company looks to the early colonization of the lands which is always attended with an increase in the local trade and a steady utilization of the railway line with consequent return to the company.

In view of this the expectation is that the coming year will see a very rapid increase in the areas devoted to farming on Vancouver Island. Intensive farming will likely be the system adopted to a large extent as the character of the country lends itself to this specialty. It will be followed in the various lines, such as fruit growing, dairying, etc.

The beneficial effects of this clearing scheme both on the immediate development and the future growth in trade and population of Vancouver Island cannot be overestimated. Victoria will glean not a small measure of these results. To the city will flow a great proportion of the products raised by the home-steaders who will flock to the cleared area. The increased supply of farm produce will either be consumed here or else on its way to other markets it will find its outlet through this port. Thus the trade of the city will be increased; the population of the island will grow, and the latter fact can be looked forward to with perfect equanimity inasmuch as the type of settler



PILE OF STUMPS PULLED OFF LOGGED LAND BY DONKEY ENGINE.

Activity in Oak Bay

Past Season Has Seen Large Expenditure in Residences and Improvements of Thoroughfares

The development of Oak Bay municipality, the suburb of the city of Victoria, which is so intimately connected with it as to form one for all general purposes, has made remarkable progress during the last year. The organization of this district into a municipality has aided in this, affording opportunity to carry out needed improvements on the streets. Up to a year and a half ago when the district depended upon the appropriation from the provincial government for the maintenance of its roads and streets, the condition of the public ways was not what they should have been.

The assuming of local government has worked a decided change. Now many of the streets have been put into first class shape, and the general conditions have all improved.

During the past year there has been about \$25,000 expended on the public ways of the Oak Bay municipality and a vast amount of work is already in contemplation for next year. This expenditure on the streets and roads has all been done under the local improvement system, the parties directly benefited paying the heavy part of the cost of the work.

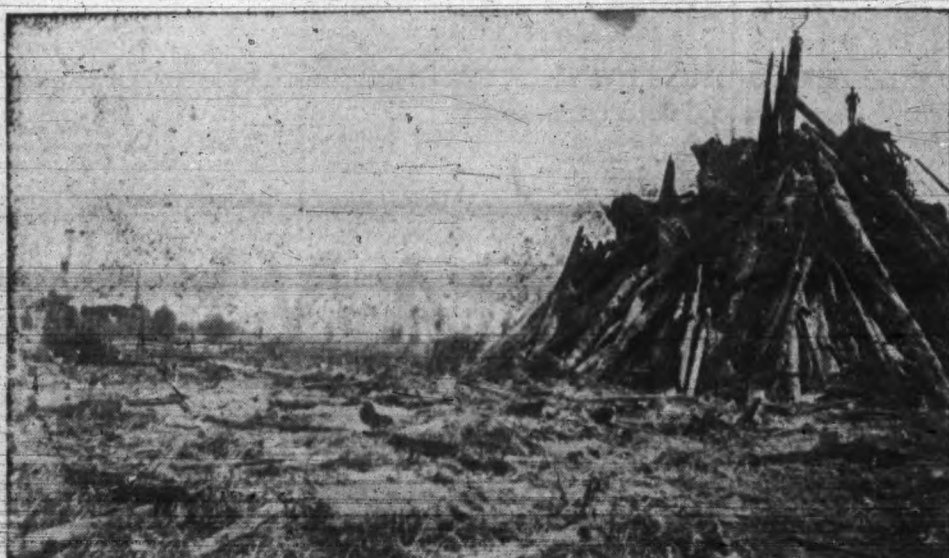
If the policy which the present council

of Oak Bay has initiated is continued for a few years that suburb will become one of the most attractive parts of the city.

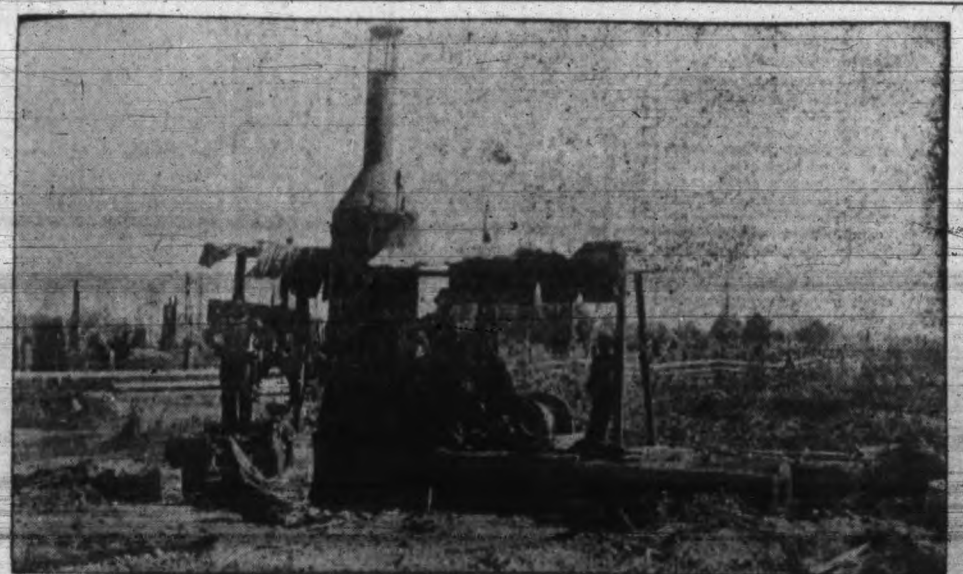
Already the charms which Oak Bay has as a place of residence have not been overlooked and beautiful homes have been built there. The recent move in real estate, covering a period of two years or more, has been very marked in Oak Bay district. There have been many changes in property, many of the new-comers selecting the southeastern suburb as the place in which to erect homes.

So marked has the activity been that during the year now about to close it is estimated that at least \$50,000 has been expended in buildings. For the most part these structures have been of a very modern type, but representing no very large individual expenditure. The picturesque situations which abound in that district lend themselves to the laying out of beautiful grounds without the necessity of introducing high-priced mansions.

Oak Bay, with its convenient means of access by street car line is steadily growing in favor as a place of residence, and the suburb is destined to become one of the prettiest parts of Victoria.



READY FOR BURNING PILE 75 FEET IN LENGTH.



DONKEY ENGINE USED IN CLEARING LAND.

Victoria Shipping Is Increasing

New Channels of Trade Were Opened
Up During Past Season

From the point of view occupied by those interested in Victoria's future as a port, the present year has been, in many respects, a red-letter one. In every direction trade, both coastwise and trans-oceanic, has increased most gratifyingly, the harbor improvements in the way of dredging and blasting have been carried on apace, and the company owning the outer wharves has announced that it will increase their capacity at an early date to keep abreast of the ocean traffic. Progress, marked by unmistakable signs of solidity, has characterized the twelve months just passed.

The most noticeable feature of the year has been the foundation of what must soon prove a highly profitable trade with Mexico's Pacific coast. A regular steamship line was inaugurated in the early part of the year under joint subsidy by the Dominion and Mexican governments, and this, the first step toward the fostering of

Sound Trade Relations
with the republic, has already borne good fruit. The steamships Georgia and Lonsdale have been operated throughout the past eight months by the Canadian-Mexican S. S. Co., and are running on a regular monthly schedule between this port and Guaymas, Mazatlan, Manzanilla, Acapulco and Salina Cruz. In every way the line has fulfilled expectations, the conservative prognostications of those shipping men who understand the difficulty of working up new trade, being more than realized up to date.

The success attending the steamship line, and the facilities for trade communication with the developing of the

growing lumber camps, canneries and settlements both on the east coast of the island and adjacent mainland coast. The operation of this steamship has proved most profitable and has fully justified the addition of many new points during the year to her way port calls.

The exploitation of the Queen Charlotte Islands during the year has increased the C. P. R. to maintain a regular service to the various mining camps and settlements established there. The first shipment of ore from the islands was brought down this summer from the Ikeda Bay mine by the steamship Princess Beatrice, since which time several consignments have come south and the trade between Victoria, Vancouver and the islands has expanded to considerable dimensions. The passenger traffic has been almost phenomenal, the returns in this direction bearing eloquent testimony to the great attraction for investors, prospectors, timber cruisers and others which the islands offer. The fact that the C. P. R. northern British Columbia winter schedule includes the Queen Charlotte towns and settlements, shows that they have become highly important from a shipping standpoint.

All the ports on the coast route, including the lying places known as Port Eslington, Port Simpson and Prince Rupert, have grown considerably during 1907, especially the latter, which is already assuming the proportions of a respectable sized town. The addition of Prince Rupert to the list of way ports on the run has resulted in an

Increase of Freight
as, although not yet settled to any large

every five days. The three steamships are fast, extremely comfortable, and especially equipped for the San Francisco route with wireless telegraphy. To review fully the expansion of the coastwise shipping during the year would require more space than is available. It is sufficient, perhaps, to say in conclusion, that it has been fully in keeping with the development of British Columbia's great natural resources and furthermore that it promises to continue expanding with consequent benefit to this port.

Harbor Improvements.
The Dominion government has spent a large appropriation during 1907 on improvements to the inner harbor, the dredger, Mudlark and a blasting outfit having been engaged in deepening the entrance channel and the most frequented parts. The big clam-shell dredger, which will be operated by the government about this port, is now being assembled at New Westminster and will shortly be placed in service.

Rithet & Co. have announced that the outer wharves will be extended at an early date to accommodate the increasing fleet of ocean steamships calling here, and plans have been prepared for extensive improvements.

The C. P. R. Company has been using the inner wharf adjoining Belleville street for several months, and has erected new sheds equipped with modern devices for handling freight.

After docking their vessels at the C. P. R. wharf for a considerable length of time when the Indianapolis was in service, the Alaska S. S. Co. constructed a fine wharf this past summer to accommodate its steamship Chippewa. The wharf is situated on the water-

by outgrowth, is looked upon in shipping circles as the first step toward the improvement of the C. P. R. Pacific fleet, inasmuch as it makes room for more modern steamships.

While circumstances appear to forbid that the trade between this province and Australia shall ever grow to very large proportions, the year has seen a large increase in passenger traffic. The Union S. S. Co. has placed into service the fine new steamship Maracaibo on this run in place of one of the older boats and, in the absence of authentic statements concerning the business, this can be taken as an indication that the company is optimistic in regard to the service.

From every standpoint the year has been one of progress in shipping circles. In retrospect, 1907 has been a "red letter" period in Victoria's career as a port. What is more gratifying still, the prospect for the coming year is full of indications that even the trade record of the past twelve months will be exceeded in 1908.

NEW STEAMERS

The C.P.R. Improving
Coast Services

One of the surest signs that this port is being borne on the flood tide of prosperity is the steady increase in the expenditure of the C. P. R. on the coast steamship service. Not only has the company put into service the fine steamship Princess Royal during 1907, but it has had the new freighter Princess Ena built on the Mersey to take care of the multiplying coastwise cargoes and has awarded the contract for what is to be the finest passenger ever seen in these waters.

The Fairfield Shipbuilding Company has already commenced the construction of this new Princess, and it is announced that she is to be a finer vessel than the Princess Victoria, the ferry flyer that has attracted so much attention while in service between Victoria and the mainland. An idea of the new steamship's capacity can be estimated from the fact that she will have 120 staterooms and will be luxuriously finished throughout. Reciprocating engines will be used, giving the boat a speed of twenty knots. With the Princess Victoria the new steamship, which is to arrive in these waters in January, 1909, according to present arrangements, will provide efficient ferry service with the mainland for several years to come. Should any unforeseen circumstance place one of the steamships out of commission the C. P. R. coast fleet will still be able to afford the travelling public the quickest and most comfortable ferry transportation imaginable.

The Victoria has been, in more ways than one, a great money-maker for the company and a great boon to travellers. Her speed and her comfortable accommodation have placed her in a class all by herself with the people who cross the straits, and the prospect of a similar craft to ply in conjunction with her cannot fail to impress the importance which the maritime corporation is bestowing on Victoria.

In conversation with Capt. J. W. Troup, the superintendent of the coast service, a Times reporter was informed that the past year had been a most successful one. Speaking of the future, Capt. Troup said that the C. P. R. had already displayed its willingness to keep the coast service abreast of the times and would certainly continue this policy. The building of the Princess Royal, the Princess Ena and the new ferry flyer in a space of two years was a certain indication that the company had every confidence in British Columbia's rapid development justifying almost unlimited expense to meet all the needs of the coast trade.

THE HOLT LINERS.

The splendid "blue-funnel" steamships of the Alfred Holt line which have called here this year, included some of the finest freighters afloat. Every one of them was over 5,000 tons net register, making them by far the largest vessels with the solitary exception of the big Holt liner Mingos, that have sailed into the Straits of Georgia during 1907.

Among the more recent arrivals in the Holt fleet have been the Tuer, 5,805 tons net; Titan, 5,720 tons net; Keemun, 5,365 tons net; Oanfa, 5,576 tons net. Coming to this port were the Cyclops, 5,734 tons net; the Ning Chow, 5,338 tons net, and the Antiochus, 5,796 tons net. The "round-the-world" service, as it is often called, has proved so profitable that the Holt line maintains only its finest steamships on it.

Whaling Proves Paying Industry

Local Company Has Had Busy Year in
Operations on This Coast

Enterprise and record breaking, the genius of invention and a spice of romance, are one and all interwoven with the whaling operations which have been carried out by the Pacific Whaling Company off the shores of Vancouver Island during the year which is now drawing to a close. The company, which is essentially a local concern, has extended the scope of its operations since January, when it had only one station on the coast—Sechart—to three stations, two of which it now hunts from during the summer months, and a third from which the pursuit of the mammals can be carried on throughout the year.

Late in 1906 it was finally established that there was an abundant supply of whales to be obtained in the waters which surround Vancouver Island. Consequently upon this discovery the local company set itself the task of extending the scope of its operations. Plans were drawn up for a station to be situated on Narrows Cut Creek, Kyquoot Sound, the construction work was commenced late in March, and in the course of three months' time the station was in operation. In the early part of the year a second steam whaler was brought round from the coast of Newfoundland. The St. Lawrence, as this whaler is named, is one of the most up-to-date and powerful vessels of her type, manned by men who have carried on successful operations off the Newfoundland banks, when hunting in those waters was in its heyday.

During the time that the new station was being built, active hunting had been going on from Sechart. Actual operations commenced about the beginning of May and within a fortnight

the mammals to be captured close into the shore. They have been killed at a distance of eight miles from the ship, and what is recognized as the hunting belt lies some sixteen miles distant from Kyquoot Sound, where that inlet meets the waters of the Pacific.

A complete table showing the actual results achieved at the Kyquoot station is difficult to obtain, but a noticeable feature of the captures was the fact that nearly half of the mammals taken were sulphur bottoms, a species of quarry which is at least three times as valuable, as well as being three times as large, as a humpback. It is estimated that during the time that the St. Lawrence hunted from Kyquoot Sound she captured in all upwards of 150 of the whale species. At the station itself a body of 100 men were kept in constant employment. A further impetus was added to the trade on the west coast, as each voyage of coasting vessels saw large quantities of provisions, coal, machinery, and often-times employees, being brought to either Kyquoot or Sechart. In connection with the latter station it should also be pointed out that early in the spring considerable improvements were effected. More up-to-date machinery was installed and the effective staff was increased from something like 70 to 100 men.

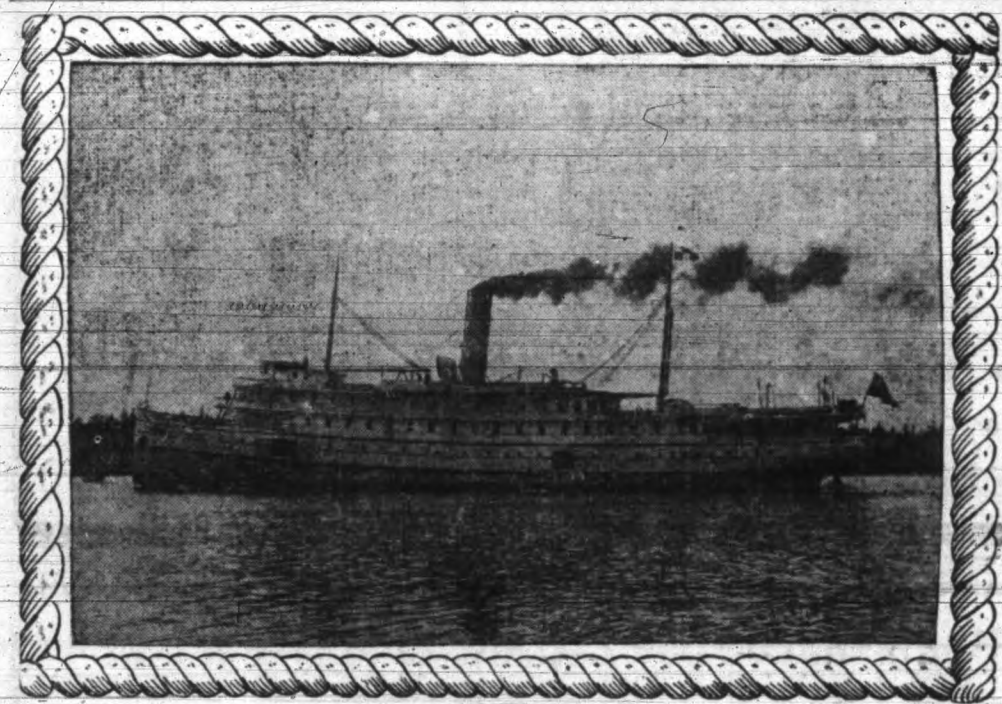
Between the two stations which were operated—Sechart from April to October, and Kyquoot from mid-July to the latter end of October—it is estimated that over 500 mammals were captured. On the most conservative computation the gain to the Pacific Whaling Company reached over half a million dollars. In view of the fact that the great proportion of the shareholders are Victorians, these results

steam whalers figured. The story goes that on one occasion when the gunner on board the St. Lawrence had pinned his quarry, the mammal dived and, coming up beneath the vessel, the bomb exploded and practically lifted the craft clean out of the water. This incident was related by a member of the crew as an ordinary event in the day's hunting, and the eventuality that if the huge quarry had struck the vessel when clearing its way through the water at fifteen miles an hour and shattered her to fragments, never for a moment seems to have been entertained.

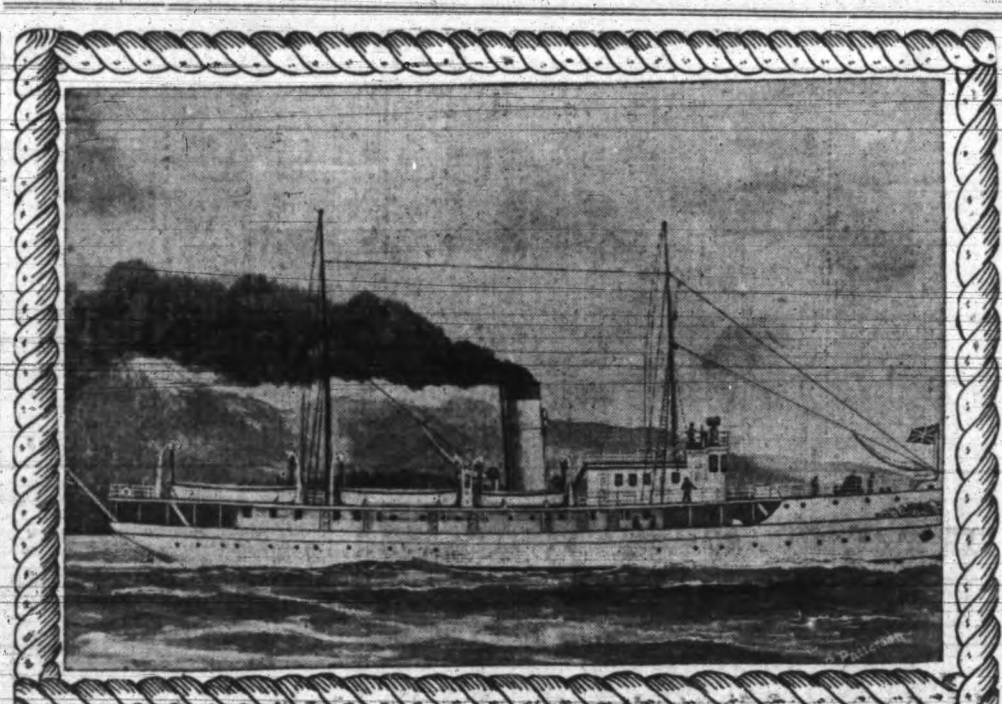
But perhaps the most exciting experience of those recorded was one which overtook the St. Lawrence during August, when that vessel was off Kyquoot. She had sighted a mammoth sulphur bottom and had given chase. The gunner, with his customary accuracy, transfixed his quarry with a harpoon. Through some untoward event, however, the bomb failed to explode and the whale, driven frantic by the strangle weapon in its carcase, raced away, dragging in its wake the little steamer, for a distance of 25 miles. There were moments when the steamer tore through the water at a speed of nearly 20 miles an hour. Ever and anon the whale would pause as if for breath, but as soon as the engines were started up and the vessel again proceeded to get within striking distance of the quarry it would suddenly, with a sweep of its tail, turn in some other direction, and switching the vessel round again, start off at top speed. For seven solid hours this

Merry Game Went On.

Luckily the waters were comparatively smooth, and the crew enjoyed the fun, wondering the while what the end of



STEAMER PRINCESS ROYAL, BUILT AT BULLEN'S YARDS, ESQUIMALT, FOR C. P. R.



HYDROGRAPHIC STEAMER ALEXANDRA, BEING BUILT FOR DOMINION GOVERNMENT, IN VICTORIA

republic have attracted much attention among local business men, and the formation of the Canadian and Mexican Development Co., and the Mexican Pacific Co., both of which concerns have since been amalgamated, largely resulted from the interest that came consequent upon the operation of the subsidized mail boats. The Mexican Pacific Company intends to develop large tracts of tropical fruit and tobacco lands which it has acquired on the west coast of Mexico and to charter steamships to maintain a commercial interchange of products between the southern ports and this province. The first vessel chartered is the German steamship Isle, which will sail south in January, taking a number of those interested in the company on a trip of inspection.

The formation of the British Coast Steamship Company, which is already operating the steamship Transit, has also a bearing on the Mexican trade situation, as it is the intention of the concern to participate in this trade to a large extent. In addition to the Transit the company intends to put into operation a large steamship which is being built in Norway to engage in general coastwise and ocean trade, and also to purchase a coasting vessel of an improved type for operation on this coast.

The recent visit of A. W. Donly, the Canadian trade commissioner in Mexico, to this city, and the instructive address which he delivered to a large gathering of local business men, has done much in the way of

degree, the place has been thickly populated with transients during the summer and autumn, and has also been a receiving point for a large amount of general merchandise and other freight. The traffic on the Skeena from Hazelton to Hazelton has been heavy during the year in spite of several suspensions of navigation caused by steamboat accidents.

The Union Steamship Company's fine vessel Camosun is also in operation on the northern B. C. route, and the Boscowitz Steamship Company, which maintains the Ventura on the Naas river run, has shown its confidence in the coastwise trade by placing the fine steamship Vadoz, purchased in England, into commission this fall. The C. P. R. have added the Princess Ena to the coastwise fleet, and is to place another vessel, of the Princess-Victoria type, on the ferry run.

The passenger traffic between this port, Vancouver and Seattle, has been a record-breaker. The

Summer Service
to the Terminal City, was maintained by the Princess Victoria and the Chatter and that to the Sound by the Princess Beatrice, Princess May and Princess Royal in turn, the latter partial steamship being now on the route. The Alaska S. S. Co.'s fine steamship Chippewa replaced the Indianapolis on the Seattle ferry this summer, and furnishes, with the C. P. R. boat, a double daily service.

An event of the year was the addition of the Princess Royal to the C. P. R. fleet, this magnificent steamship being handed over to the company by the builders, the B. C. Marine Railway Company, of Esquimalt. A fine sea boat, luxuriously appointed and fast, the Royal proved a credit to her builders, and the "star" steamship on the Skagway route, breaking all records for the past few years, that is, since the gold rush, for passenger complements.

The smaller coasting steamships have all been busily engaged during 1907, and several additions to this "tramp" fleet are contemplated by successful owners. At present work is in progress at the Turpel shipyard on a new freighter for Leeming Brothers, which will go into commission next year.

Between this port and San Francisco the direct traffic, both passenger and freight, has increased. The Pacific Coast S. S. Company, the steamships of which make Victoria a regular intermediary call between the Sound and the Bay City, placed the fine steamships

Governor and President
in service during the summer, and both these vessels call regularly here. With the steamship City of Pueblo, the two latest and greatest of the company's fleet maintain a service of sailings once

front near the general post office, and has so far proved a success.

Ocean Trade.
Trade from Victoria by ocean routes has been heavier than in any previous year, especially with the Orient. The service between Glasgow, Liverpool and these waters which is furnished by the great Holt liners on a regular schedule, has been one of the chief factors in increasing this trade, as it offers exceptional advantages for the shipping of perishable freight. Prominent among the new shipments of local products which the Blue Funnel steamships have taken from this port during the year have been several thousand drums of whale oil shipped from here by the Pacific Whaling Company to Glasgow.

The C. P. R. service to the Orient has prospered during 1907, and many reports of a semi-regular character, credit the company with the contemplation of adding several modern steamships to the fleet now running. The sale of the steamships Tartar and Athenian, both old vessels that the trade has practical-



BANFIELD CREEK LIFEBOAT ON TRIAL TRIP—FOR SERVICE ON WEST COAST, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

of the first cry "there she blows" it became apparent that all records in the annals of the industry were about to go by the board. The last fortnight in April saw seventy whales captured—practically an average of six per day.

From the time of this hitherto unprecedented feat the Pacific Whaling Company has had a record of success. Day after day the Orion put into Sechart towing either one, two or three of the dead mammals. These were of two species, "humpbacks" and "sulphur bottoms," and during the hunting some very large types of the latter kind were secured, one of them measuring over 85 feet in length.

In the middle of July the Kyquoot Sound station was completed and the St. Lawrence proceeded from her moorings at Sechart and commenced operations in the new field where the company had decided to operate. Unparalleled success attended her earliest efforts, and this is doubtless attributable to the advantageous conditions which the new station enjoys over Sechart. At Kyquoot it is possible for

must be especially gratifying, even in a year which has been prolific of achievement in the city.

In the above approximate figures no mention has been made of the company's third station, which commenced operations some few weeks ago. This station is situated at Page's Lagoon, hard by the city of Nanaimo. It was commenced in August and finished about ten weeks later. To all intents and purposes it is a replica of the station at Kyquoot Sound, equipped in the most modern style, and having many time-saving devices, which are the invention of a prominent director of the company. Indeed, in connection with all three stations of the company it may be stated that there are now in operation many features which have not hitherto been employed in the industry in any part of the world. These features, which are perhaps known only to those in the immediate vicinity of the industry, have enabled the company to introduce some processes of manufacture which have resulted in new products that are unique in whaling annals. By them every portion of the whale is utilized, for each product there is a market, and the actual value of the mammals has, therefore, been increased to an enormous extent.

In the Old World whaling market, the centre of which is Glasgow, the resources of the Vancouver Island waters have been recognized. The largest consignments of oil from any one place are now shipped from Victoria on the vessels of the Holt line to Glasgow, where they find a ready and immediate market. The guano is shipped to Japan and other parts of the East, and the extension of the hunting has brought in its train an extension of trade which has necessarily benefited this port to a large degree. Even now in comparative mid-winter each Blue Funnel liner outward bound from this port carries its

Quota of Whale Oil.
while, though the station of Sechart and Kyquoot are closed down for the winter, that at Page's Lagoon is in "full blast" and has been averaging over a dozen whales a week since its inception.

So it will be seen that the whaling industry has played no small part in the development of the island during the present year. Apart, however, from its commercial value incidents have transpired during the pursuit of the mammals which might well form the subject matter of a fascinating adventure novel. The events related in the Cruise of the Cachet are not altogether without parallel on this coast. Incidents

it all would be. Towards evening, however, the mammal seemed to get tired of its antics, and in an unguarded moment allowed the hunters to creep within measurable distance, when a couple of bombs, well directed, put an end to the chase, and incidentally to the sulphur-bottom.

As yet it is difficult to say what the future plans of the Pacific Whaling Company will be with regard to the waters of Vancouver Island. The concern has at present permission from the Dominion government to erect two other sites along the coast, but the exact location of these has not yet been determined upon. As far as can be gathered, however, the company will continue to operate from Page's Lagoon until such time as the fact is fully established that hunting can be carried on in a successful manner in the inland waters. If the

Supply of Whales
should give out there, it is unlikely that another station will be erected on the Straits of Georgia. This is, however, an extremely improbable contingency, as the whalers Orion and St. Lawrence are now taking as many of the mammals as they can comfortably handle, and there is every indication that hunting will be carried on for many a long day with satisfactory results, even in these inland waters. It is noteworthy that similar waters in other parts of the world have never proved sufficiently prolific of whales to warrant their exploitation. During the summer, in fact, from the early spring, Sechart and Kyquoot will be in full swing, and while the company has already attained a position unique in the annals of whaling, present indications are that the future will enable it to surpass its own wonderful record which the enterprise and the abundance of mammals on the island coast have combined to achieve.

CHARGEURS REUNIS LINE.

On the way to Victoria at the present time is the steamship Europe, the latest addition to the Chargeurs Reunis fleet, which maintains a line to these waters and for whose vessels dockage arrangements are being made at Esquimalt. The new steamship is of 2,893 tons net register and is a modern vessel in every respect, having a large cargo capacity and comfortable accommodation for a number of passengers.

Few steamship lines send their vessels right round the globe. But the Chargeurs Reunis Company has done it for two years past, and is now building five new twin-screw passenger and cargo steamers—three on the Tyne and two at St. Nazaire—to develop its unique service.

Thrilling Happenings
in which either of the staunch little

AID TO NAVIGATION ON THIS COAST

Dominion Government Has Made a Splendid Record in
Furnishing Means to Assist Navigators in These Waters

The year which now draws near to conclusion has been a remarkable one in the department of marine and fisheries, inasmuch as it has seen the establishing of many aids to navigation and extensive development of the Dominion government's comprehensive scheme for making the intricacies of British Columbia's waterways as easy of approach and passage as any of their kind in the world.

As an evidence of what has been done within recent years on this coast it is worthy of note that, when Hon. Israel Tarte visited the city in the fall of 1898, just after the Laurier government came into power, a long list of aids was submitted by the board of trade with a request that they be granted that list was as follows:

1. Light on north entrance to Main passage.
2. Light on Sawyer Island.
3. Light on Bernie Island, Port Simpson.
4. Light on Jessie, Departure bay.
5. Light on Gordon group, New channel.
6. The Sand Head lighthouse discontinued and a lightship established on the entrance to the Fraser river, fitted with a steam foghorn.
7. Light on Pulteney point.
8. Light on east end of Cormorant Island.
9. Light on Leonard Island, Clayoquot Island.
10. Light on Helmcken Island.
11. Two leading lights on Yellow Island to show fairway between Maple Reef and Reef bluff. The present revolving light changed to a small fixed light.

Beacons Required.

1. Wooden beacon, 50 feet high, North rock, Stuart channel.
2. Small stone beacon on reef, north-west side of entrance to Horse Shoe bay, Chemainus.
3. Stone beacon on Shute reef, Piers Island.
4. Stone beacon on Thresher reef, Gabriola Island.
5. Stone beacon on Burnaby reef, Vancouver harbor.
6. Two leading marks erected on Brockton point to clear Parthia shoal, bound inwards.
7. One leading mark erected on the shore west of the narrows to clear

8. Iron buoy on Turnbull reef, Moreau by channel.
9. Iron buoy on Entrance Point reef, Sansum narrows, spar buoy discontinued.
10. Iron buoy on reef off Shoal Islands.
11. Spar buoy on rock, Whaleton bay, Cortes Islands.
12. Spar buoy on rock, Hemming bay, Thurlow Island.
13. Iron buoy on Walbarn rock, Fitzhugh sound.
14. Iron buoy on Dall Patch, spar buoy discontinued.
15. Two small iron buoys, Metlakatlah harbor, spar buoy discontinued.
16. Small iron buoy on reef, south of island at entrance to Deception pass, Clayoquot sound.
17. Small iron buoy on end of north-easterly spit, Stubbs Island, Clayoquot sound.

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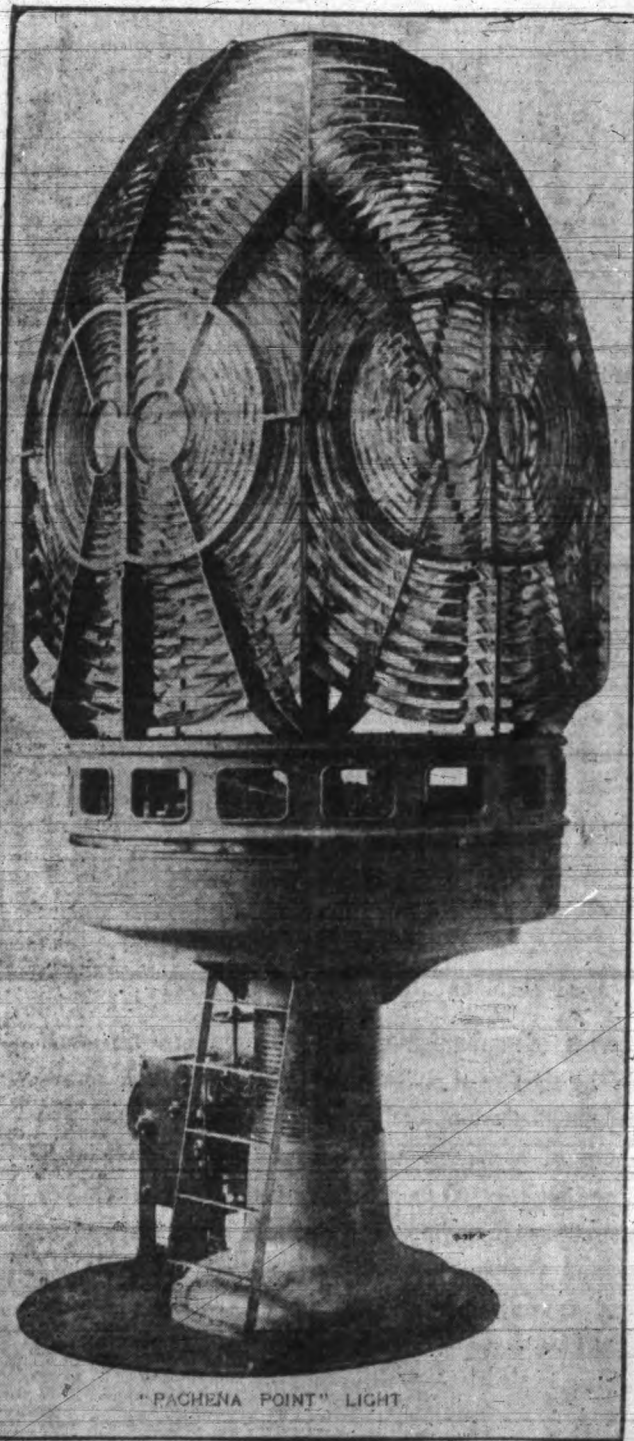
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"PACHENA POINT" LIGHT.

10. Light on north entrance to Main passage.
11. Light on Sawyer Island.
12. Light on Bernie Island, Port Simpson.
13. Light on Jessie, Departure bay.
14. Light on Gordon group, New channel.
15. The Sand Head lighthouse discontinued and a lightship established on the entrance to the Fraser river, fitted with a steam foghorn.
16. Light on Pulteney point.
17. Light on east end of Cormorant Island.
18. Light on Leonard Island, Clayoquot Island.
19. Light on Helmcken Island.
20. Two leading lights on Yellow Island to show fairway between Maple Reef and Reef bluff. The present revolving light changed to a small fixed light.

Aids to Navigation.

1. Iron buoy on Rosedale reef, Race rocks.
2. Spar buoy on Johnston reef.
3. Iron buoy on West reef, Sidney south spit.

4. Small stone beacon on rock, in Shark Spit channel, Mary Island.
5. Wooden beacon 30 feet high on Shark Spit, Mary Island.
6. Stone beacon on Nelson rock, Malaspina strait.
7. Stone beacon on Hankin reef, Port Simpson.

As compared with this long list of needs is the statement made by the council of the board of trade a few weeks ago when the members conferred with Hon. William Templeman on matters affecting the city and the coast. That statement was that they had no further aids to navigation to recommend at the time.

Especially in the neighborhood of Vancouver Island, where the topography of the coast lines and the broken land calls for careful navigation, the department has rendered generous assistance to the mariner in marking off reefs and other dangerous points by beacons, buoys and light-houses, and in building efficient fog-alarm stations to warn shipping in thick weather. So much work has been done along those lines that news-

papers published in the United States and Alaska have showered congratulations upon the Dominion government and expressed appreciation in no small measure. In the more important harbors of northern British Columbia, many new aids have been established, and the whole of the existing ones overhauled.

The D. G. S. Quadra, Capt. Hackett, has accomplished a considerable amount of work and, in addition to this steamship, the department has employed a fleet of four steamships to facilitate its work, namely, the Maude and the tug William Joffe, owned by the B. C. Salvage Company, the Cascade, owned by Leeming Brothers and the Fern, of this port.

Among the light-houses now under construction is one at Pachena point on which there is being established one of the finest lights at present manufactured. An idea of this light may be obtained from a glance at the accompanying illustration. The lantern was manufactured by Chance Brothers, Birmingham, England, and will be, when completely installed, the most expensive and most serviceable light on the Pacific coast.

As an indication of the extensive work completed, or begun, during the last twelve months, the following compilation will be of interest. It was compiled at the Ottawa office of the department and briefly reviews the latest works undertaken.

Quatsino sound, Kynquut sound, Ragged Islands, near Lund, Plover point, Mosquito harbor—31 days Wigham lamps established last winter.

Trials Island—Lighthouse and fog alarm built last year.

Lucy Island—Lighthouse established on January 1st, 1907.

Estevan point—Land cleared and lighthouse erection in progress, fog alarm in May.

Pachena point—Lighthouse and fog alarm construction in progress.

Cape Beale—Lighthouse tower rebuilt and diaphone fog alarm under construction.

Small diaphone fog alarms are now in process of installation at Bal-lenas Islands light station, where the lighthouse is also to be moved to a higher location and a keeper's dwelling provided; Ivory Island, Yellow Island; Sisters light station.

A new keeper's dwelling has been built at Portlier Pass light station.

It is contemplated next year to build a new tower at Carmanah to receive a third order illuminating apparatus, and to establish a diaphone fog alarm at Prospect Point light station.

Scarlett Point light has been improved by changing it from fixed red to white with a red sector.

Sandhead's bell buoy was replaced by a gas buoy last winter and this has since been replaced by a combined gas, whistling and bell buoy.

Suchant light, on Whale rock, carried away in the autumn of 1906, has been replaced.

Shoal Point and Middle Rock beacon lights in Victoria harbor have been strengthened and made electric.

Kelp Bar bell buoy has been replaced by a gas and bell buoy.

Danger Reef Wigham light, in Stewart channel, has been replaced by a gas light.

Gas-lighted beacons have been established at the following places: Dodd narrows, in May, 1907; West Rocks, Horwaxell channel, in May, 1907; Green-ton Island, Chatham sound, in May, 1907; Watson rock, in June, 1907; Pointers rocks, in June, 1907; Maud Island, Seymour narrows, in July, 1907; Zero rock, Rivers inlet, in August, 1907; Fog rocks, Fitzhugh sound, in August, 1907; Sarah Island, in August, 1907; Morning reef.

A gas buoy was established on Elliott rock, Prince Rupert, in May, 1907.

The old beacons on Kelp reef, in Harlo strait, and on Gabriola reefs have been surmounted by gas lights.

A bell buoy was established on Spanish bank in August, 1907.

A combined gas, whistling and bell buoy was established on Saffire bank in August, 1907.

The whistling buoy at Port San Juan was replaced by a combined gas and whistling buoy in September, 1907, and a similar improvement made in Vancouver Rock buoy.

A gas and whistling buoy was established in the south entrance to Riverquut in October.

A whistling buoy in the entrance to Hoquilt and a bell buoy replaces the fairway cap buoy in Portlier pass.

A good road has been built from Bandfield Creek to Pachena, and is being extended to Carmanah.

Lookout stations were established last winter on the West Coast, and shelter sheds provided.

Five winter stations have been established on the coast as aids to navigation.

AN IMPORTANT PORT

The growing importance of Victoria as a port, as well as in the nature of a cosmopolitan city, is strongly emphasized by the returns for the year furnished by Dr. G. L. Milne, Dominion medical inspector and immigration agent. Even to those who take a lively interest in shipping matters, it may come as a surprise for them to learn that an average of 30 steamships a month from foreign ports were examined by the Immigration agent from January 1st until November 30th, and that an average of 8,600 passengers a month landed in Victoria during the same period.

From the 1st of April to the end of October 56,379 passengers debarked from steamships arriving from foreign ports out of a total number of 92,666 carried on these vessels.

As showing the large amount of work done by the immigration officials during the eleven months preceding November 30th, the following tables will be of interest:

Month	No. of Steamships	Total Passengers	Debarred Here
Jan.	75	No record	No record
Feb.	75	No record	No record
March	75	No record	No record
April	75	5,046	3,731
May	75	11,594	7,242
June	75	11,117	7,242
July	75	20,373	11,599
Aug.	75	14,557	9,900
Sept.	75	15,093	8,142
Oct.	75	1,062	6,001
Nov.	75	No record	No record
Total	774	92,606	56,379

Where "no record" appears the returns were not available.

Ideal Holiday Gifts

YOU also have an opportunity to get the \$100 which we are giving away with every \$1 or 50c purchase. Ask for Coupons.

OUR PIANOS

HAVE THE QUALITY AS WELL
AS THE LOWEST PRICES ON
THE MARKET

Steinway, Nordheimer, Heintzman & Co., New Scale Williams, Palmer and Dominion.

Emerson, Angelus and Auto-piano, Player Pianos, Angelus Piano Players.

Sold on Easy Payments
Second-hand Pianos Taken in Exchange.

SEND FOR PRICE LISTS



Mouth Organs

5c to \$1.25

Accordeons

\$1.00 to \$20.00

Violins

\$2.50 to \$100

Mandolins

\$4.50 to \$35.00

Music Carriers

65c to \$8.00

Piano Stools and Drapes

Record Cases

DON'T FORGET the \$100 we are giving away on Jan. 31st. Every \$1 or 50c spent with us entitles you to a chance.

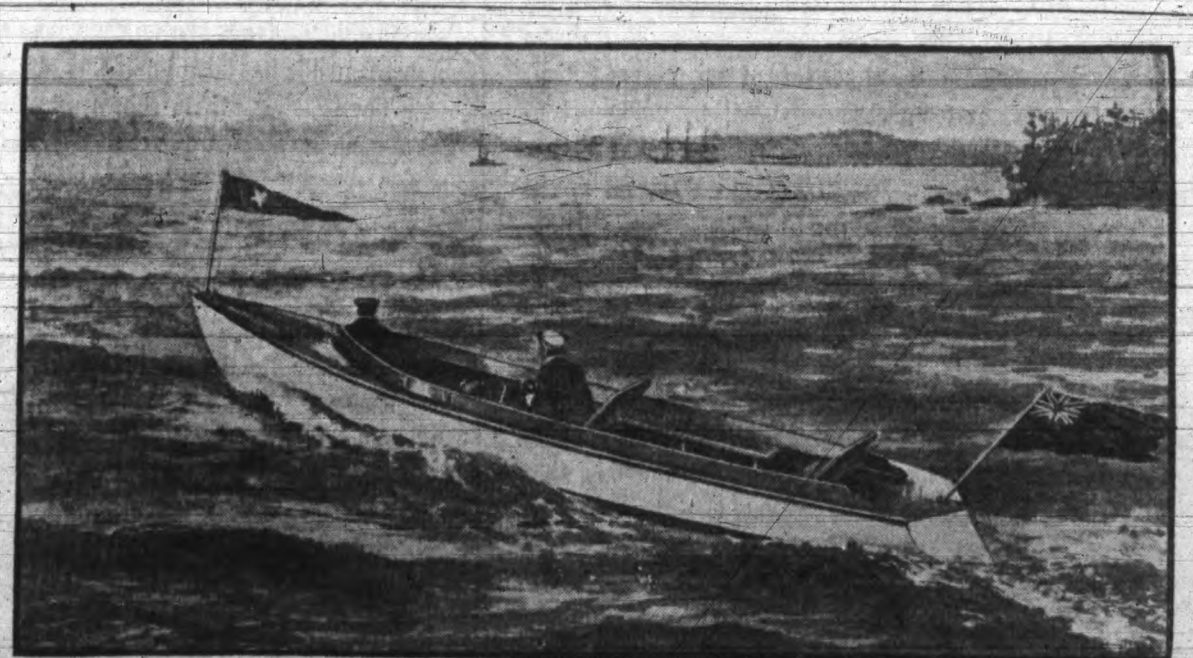
M. W. Waitt & Co., Ltd.

The Oldest and Largest Music House in B. C.

1004 GOVERNMENT STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

ORDER NOW and have Your LAUNCH in Commission
for the Opening of the SEASON

BOATS MOTORS



Heavy Duty, Slow Speed,
for Cruisers and Working Boats

Medium Weight, Medium Speed,
for Pleasure and Speed Boats

BOTH FITTED WITH DOUBLE IGNITION AND OTHER FEATURES

HUTCHISON BROS. & CO., LTD.

Rock Bay, Victoria, B. C.

AGENTS FOR STANDARD MOTOR AND CONSTRUCTION CO., Jersey City, N. J.
TRUSCOTT BOAT & MOTOR COMPANY, St. Joseph, Michigan.

The Chartered Bank of British Columbia

To be incorporated by Act of the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada

Head Office, Vancouver, B. C.

CAPITAL, - - - \$2,000,000

In 20,000 Shares of 100 Each, with \$10 Premium

The Following Have Applied for Incorporation and Will Be the Provisional Directors:

T. W. PATERSON, Esq., Capitalist, Victoria,
British Columbia.

J. A. MITCHELL, Esq., Capitalist, Victoria,
British Columbia.

F. W. JONES, Esq., Lumberman, Victoria,
British Columbia.

W. H. MALKIN, Esq., W. H. Malkin Co., Ltd.,
Wholesale Grocers, Vancouver, B. C.

R. P. McLENNAN, Esq., McLennan, McFeely & Co.,
Wholesale Hardware, Vancouver, B. C.

H. P. CEPERLEY, Esq., Ceperley, Rounsefell & Co.
Brokers, Vancouver, B. C.

A. HARVEY, Esq., K. C., Cranbrook, B. C.

SOLICITOR:

George H. Cowan, Esq., K. C., Vancouver, B. C.

TRUSTEES:

Yorkshire Guarantee and Securities Corporation, Vancouver, B. C.

The Chartered Bank of British Columbia is being formed to meet in part the increased banking accommodation required by the natural and steady expansion of business, coincident with the great development of the country and especially of British Columbia, and, while organizing to conduct a general banking business, will give special consideration to the industries and commerce of the Province, and is being established primarily for this purpose, and through its connections in Great Britain, the United States and Eastern Canada, it will be able to greatly facilitate the investment of outside capital in the various enterprises of the Province.

British Columbia, with its great wealth of raw material in timber and minerals largely developed, with its opportunities for cattle ranching, mixed farming and fruit growing, with its fisheries and its increasing maritime trade with the Orient, Australia, Mexico and South America, and, above all, in the approaching development of its vast Central, Northern Interior, and Vancouver Island, by railway construction, will be immensely benefitted by the establishment of a Chartered Bank having its **CHIEF OFFICE** in the Province, and controlled by a Board of Directors entirely familiar with the resources and the needs of the country, whose names alone are a guarantee for the success of the undertaking.

Under the Banking Laws of Canada, a Chartered Bank has also this additional earning power—that for every dollar of paid-up capital it can issue its bills to that amount, thus doubling the earning power of its stockholders' money.

For instance, the Authorized Capital of the Chartered Bank of British Columbia is \$2,000,000.

If this were fully paid up the Bank could issue \$2,000,000 in Bills, thus earning for its stockholders dividends on \$4,000,000, giving the Bank a double earning power on its capital.

The profits on bank stock are distributed to the stockholders in two ways:—

1. Dividends paid direct to the stockholders.
2. Profits over and above dividends placed to Rest Account, which increases the value of their stock.

It is therefore scarcely necessary to point out that the shares of chartered banks in Canada are recognized as being among the safest and most profitable of investments.

Bank Stock offers to the investor:—

- (1) A safe investment.
- (2) An investment easily convertible.
- (3) A profitable investment.
- (4) An investment increasing in value.

The opportunity for investment in the stock of a new bank in Canada is rare.

It is impossible to get stock in a Chartered Bank at other than market prices.

The stock of a Chartered Bank that has been going for some time sells so readily that it must be purchased at the large premiums at which the shares sell in the open market.

Banks have the power of easily increasing the amount of their Capital Stock; but whenever they do so, the new stock must first be offered pro rata to existing shareholders.

In every case where this has been done, the existing shareholders have taken up the whole of the issue, and the general public has been unable to obtain any part of it.

The following table shows what some Canadian Banks have done in the past for their shareholders:—

BANK.	Par Value.	Present Selling Price.	Annual Dividends Now Paid.
Montreal	\$100	\$235	10 per cent
Commerce	100	160	8 "
Nova Scotia	100	279	12 "
British	100	155	7 "
Merchants	100	156	8 "
Dominion	100	220	12 "
Toronto	100	202	10 "
Royal	100	225	10 "
Hamilton	100	185	10 "
Traders	100	125	7 "
Imperial	100	198	11 "
Standard	100	213	12 "
Molsons	100	190	10 "
Eastern Townships	100	156	8 "
Ottawa	100	215	10 "

The actual returns of existing Canadian Banking Institutions to shareholders, after setting aside a portion of the yearly earnings as a "Reserve Fund" or "Rest Account," have ranged for the past ten years from six to as high as twelve per cent. per annum, and payable half yearly.

During recent years the earnings of many Chartered Banks in Canada have been over fifteen per cent. per annum.

Directors

The gentlemen who have consented to act as Provisional Directors are large stockholders, who have been successful in their own business affairs, and in whom the public have the highest confidence.

Their selection will have to be ratified by the first meeting of the shareholders. Additional directors will also be selected from among the shareholders at the said meeting, by the shareholders themselves, so that they will have a direct opportunity of seeing that the affairs of the Bank are entrusted to careful and competent management.

Arrangements have been made whereby the office of General Manager will be filled by a well known and experienced banker.

Terms of Subscription

The terms of subscription are \$10 premium on each share upon the signing of subscription, \$10 upon each share of stock within 30 days after date of subscription, and \$10 on each share of stock upon allotment by the Provisional Directors, and eight equal monthly payments of \$10 each per share, the first of such payments to be made thirty days after allotment, and the succeeding payments at intervals of thirty days. On payments made in advance of monthly instalments, interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum will be allowed.

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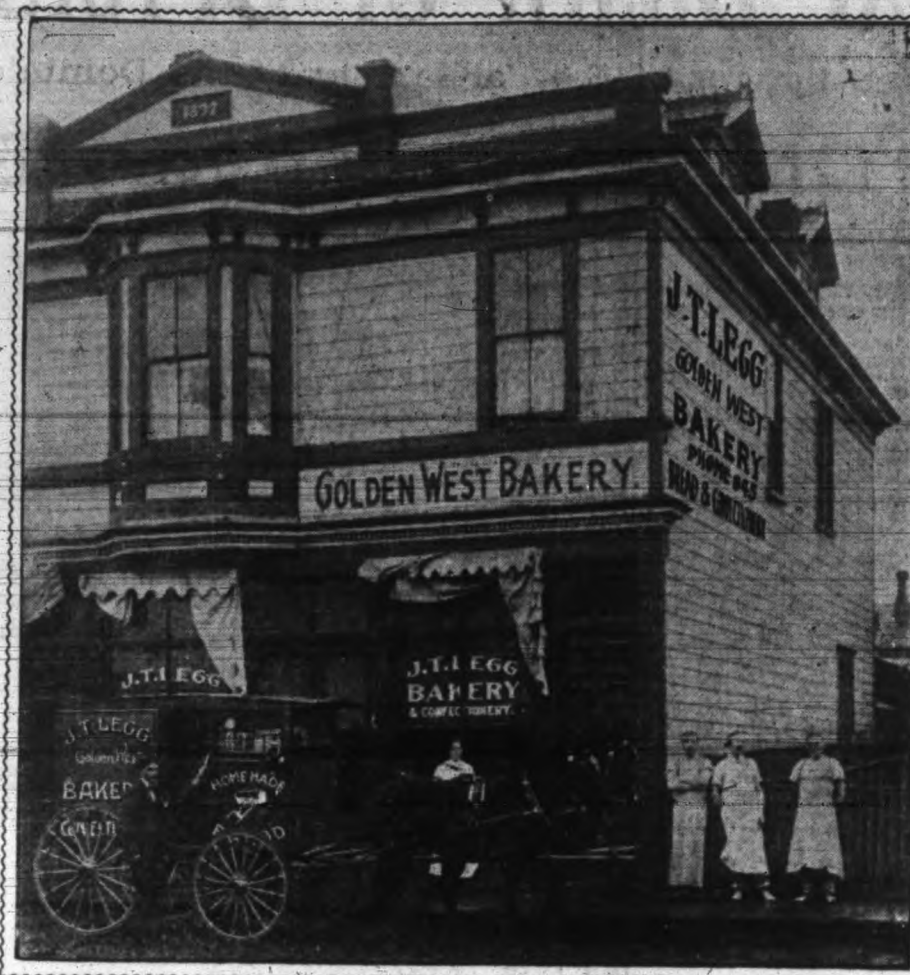
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GOLDEN WEST BREAD
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I Have Secured the Sole Right for Victoria to Manufacture WHITE CLOVER LEAF BREAD, and Will be
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Many Vessels Were Repaired Here

The Esquimalt Drydock Was Kept Constantly
Occupied During the Year.

Shipping casualties of importance have been by no means frequent in British Columbian waters during the past year and, of those that were recorded, only one was attended by loss of life. Singularly enough the one wreck that claimed its toll of victims occurred not in the stormy waters off the West Coast, but in Kitselas canyon, the tortuous passage on the Skeena river that seems always to loom as a menace to the crafts that ply between Port Eslington and Hazelton.

It was on July 6th that the fine river steamer Mount Royal, owned and operated by the Hudson's Bay Company, ran on the rocky islet known as Ringbolt Island and was wrecked in the swirling current. All the passengers made their escape to the island after the stern-wheeler struck but several of the crew were still standing at their posts when the ill-fated steamer overturned in the boiling waters and six of them were drowned. The Mount Royal, built at a cost of \$30,000, was soon broken up in the tumultuous canyon and totally destroyed.

While the wreck of the Mount Royal was by far the most disastrous of the year, inasmuch as it alone was attended by fatality, it was not the most expensive of the casualties reported during the past twelve months.

The collision, which occurred between the Tartar and the Charmer on October 17th in a dense fog off the Sandheads resulted in a heavy bill of expense for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Quite as expensive was the accident to the steamship Indravell which ran full speed on Keller bluff during a fog on October 22nd. The Indravell is now in dry-dock at Esquimalt, and is being repaired by the B. C. Marine Railway Company at a price in the neighborhood of \$10,000.

The steamship Otter also was seriously damaged when she ran on Danger reef during a fog on September 27th and the American steamship Santa Barbara was injured through stranding in Active Pass on September 8th.

Besides the casualties referred to above there were few that incurred exceptional expense to owners. There were, of course, many minor accidents to local coasting vessels resulting in trifling delays for repairs but, viewed in the year in contrast with its predecessors, it is easy to find cause for congratulation. If there is one direct cause for the decrease in shipping casualties it can be named as the improvement and extension of the aids to

navigation in these waters which are referred to in another column.

As regards shipping casualties, it is not amiss to refer to the importance of this port as a "marine hospital." The B. C. Marine Railway Company's plant at Esquimalt, the Victoria Machinery Depot's ways on the upper harbor, and Turpin's ways, situated almost opposite, all report a busy year. As each year sees Victoria grow in importance as a port so the local marine yards and repair shops are becoming more and more recognized as modern plants capable of handling anything that comes in their direction.

The dry-dock at Esquimalt accommodates the larger vessels that cannot be hauled out on the marine railways for repairs and with this advantage in their favor the local shipyards are more than able to compete with firms in the Pacific Coast cities when accidents occur in the Northwest waters.

Another fact worthy of mention is that the British Columbia Railway Company, Esquimalt, is the only concern of its kind on the coast, in fact, the only salvage company owning a fleet of craft specially adapted for salvage purposes. The steamships Salvor and Maude and the fine tug William Joffe constitute the fleet. The salvaging of the steamship Northwestern, stranded at La Touche Island, Alaska, was accomplished by the Salvor early in the year, and the big vessel was brought all the way to Esquimalt, docked and repaired. The salvage of the Indravell was another feat of which the salvage company may feel proud, as the big steamship was pumped out and released from her precarious position on Keller bluff in less than two days' time. These two big undertakings stand to the credit of the Salvor during the past year, in company with a number of lesser achievements.

The following table is interesting, as it shows the number of vessels which entered the Esquimalt drydock during the eight months from May to the end of November.

S. S. Abessinta (5,753); from May 6th to May 7th; dockage charges, \$55; other charges, \$2.40; total, \$57.40.
S. S. Victoria (3,502); from May 14th to May 15th; dockage charges, \$51; other charges, \$3.40; total, \$54.40.
S. S. Pennsylvania (2,345); from May 26th to May 28th; dockage charges, \$614; other charges, \$24.60; total, \$638.60.
S. S. Tardis (3,721); from May 31st to May 22nd; dockage charges, \$400; other charges, \$1.80; total, \$401.80.
S. S. Montana (2,562); from May 29th to May 30th; dockage charges, \$768; other charges, \$6.60; total, \$774.60.
Ship Glory of the Seas (2,100); from May 27th to May 28th; dockage charges, \$183; total, \$183.
S. S. Ammon (1,534); from June 1st to

June 2nd; dockage charges, \$532; other charges, \$1.80; total, \$533.80.
S. S. Northwestern (3,497); from June 4th to July 26th; dockage charges, \$6,010; other charges, \$321; total, \$6,331.
S. S. San Mateo (2,927); from August 21st to August 25th; dockage charges, \$497; other charges, \$16.20; total, \$513.20.
S. S. Gynerie (4,062); from October 9th to October 16th; dockage charges, \$221; other charges, \$15.60; total, \$236.60.
H. S. Shearwater (980); from October 11th to October 24th; other charges, \$209; total, \$209.
S. S. Tartar (4,425); from October 28th to November 19th; dockage charges, \$3,172; other charges, \$180.90; total, \$3,352.90.
S. S. Kezembé (4,653); from November 19th to November 24th; dockage charges, \$326; other charges, \$35.70; total, \$361.70.
S. S. Indravell (5,800); from November 25th; dockage charges, \$200 on entrance; total, \$200.

This makes a total of 14 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 52,543, spending 117 days in dock, the total revenue being \$19,323.70.

Record in Buildings

(Continued From Page 20.)

Moses Fletcher, 1½ storey house, Manchester street, \$3,500.
Rithet & Co., wharf shed, \$3,500.
J. A. McDougall, addition to dwelling, Richmond avenue, \$450.

T. F. Geiger, one storey frame building, Blanchard street, \$2,400.
F. Drake, one storey building, Green street, \$200.

Mary Tingley, 1½ storey dwelling, Fernwood road, \$2,800.

F. M. Tatham, one storey cottage, Grahame street, \$1,500.

G. H. Blaisell, 1½ storey house, St. Andrew's street, \$2,750.

Joseph Phillips, one storey house, Helmcken street, \$1,550.

F. W. Grant, 1½ storey barn, Chestnut avenue, \$400.

A. Nicholas, barn, Ontario street, \$300.

A. C. Stewart, addition to house, Pembroke street, \$300.

P. J. Jenne, addition to dwelling, Caledonia avenue, \$700.

McPherson & Fullerton, one-storey cottage, Langford street, \$1,600.

McPherson & Fullerton, 1½ storey house, MacPherson street, \$2,800.

K. Sharpe, two-storey building, Trutch avenue, \$5,000.

A. L. Brownlee, one storey dwelling, Simcoe street, \$3,000.

Mrs. A. O. Hughes, addition to house, second street, \$300.

Fattening Oysters for the Market

Scientific Feeding of the Bivalves Carried on
to Ascertain the Best Methods

The growing of oysters and the economical handling of them is fast becoming an important industry on this coast.

There have recently been some very important developments in the oyster industry of the United States looking not only to an increase in the available supply of bivalves, but also to an improvement in the quality of this highly esteemed sea food. Most notable of these new moves is an extension of the experiments of the United States government in the artificial fattening of oysters. It is admitted that if a commercially practicable method of fattening oysters can be developed it will

Give New Impetus to the whole industry and Uncle Sam, feeling that his experts are on the verge of such a solution, has planned to this season carry on tests on an extended scale at the famous Lynnhaven bay, Virginia.

Time and again it has happened that a grower has been driven to desperation because, during a large por-

tion of the most profitable season, he had no oysters to ship. The explanation was that the oysters for some reason that the grower could not control, simply

Would Not Get Fat. Such troubles have been experienced so frequently, even in the most favorable localities, that many growers now hesitate to enter into contracts to furnish oysters at stated times or in stated quantities for fear that they cannot meet the obligations.

As a remedy for this annoying state of affairs not a few oyster men have in recent years taken to plumping their products. The process resorted to is often erroneously designated as fattening the oysters, but the correct term is "floating" or "drinking." The method is to transfer the oysters to fresh or brackish water, which serves to round them out in appearance. However, the plumpness is merely illusive, and the process actually injures the oysters, both in favor and nutritive value.

Now, the experiments which have been undertaken by the government are designed not to facilitate deception such as above mentioned, but to

Actually Fatten the oyster and improve it in weight, flavor and food value. Moreover, Uncle Sam seeks a process so dependable that oysters may be fattened artificially with the same degree of certainty attained by stock raisers in fattening cattle. The scientists who have been grappling with this problem for several years past have proven that, in experimental practice as well as in theory, their scheme is entirely feasible, but there now remains the equally important essential of proving that it can be adopted advantageously by the growers, who must carefully figure cost of production, since naturally this artificial fattening involves some extra expense. To demonstrate this latter is the object of the campaign of broadened scope now being entered upon.

The plant thus far utilized for all the experiments in oyster fattening consists of a two-acre pond, having an average depth of two and one-half feet. Originally it was a cove with a narrow mouth, giving tidal communication with the main body of Lynnhaven bay, but a substantial dam was constructed across the mouth of such height as to exclude all save exceptionally high tides. At the outlet of the pond were placed in limited numbers, but there was practically no improvement in their condition during the season. In other words, it was proven that the practice of allowing oysters to fatten on the beds where they are grown is haphazard in its

methods and uncertain in its results. Furthermore, it was evidenced that the diatoms which constitute the principal food of the oyster would not multiply to an extent worth while under any such conditions.

While the experts were thus confirming their suspicions at Lynnhaven bay,

Laboratory Experiments carried on in Washington showed that the growth and multiplication of the tiny plants that serve as oyster food can be stimulated and increased like that of other vegetables by the use of certain salts in solution, or, in other words, by the application of fertilizers to the water in which they are growing. The next year ordinary commercial fertilizers, such as are commonly used for potatoes and similar crops, were placed in the pond, and more than half of the oysters forthwith became reasonably fat, some of them excessively so.

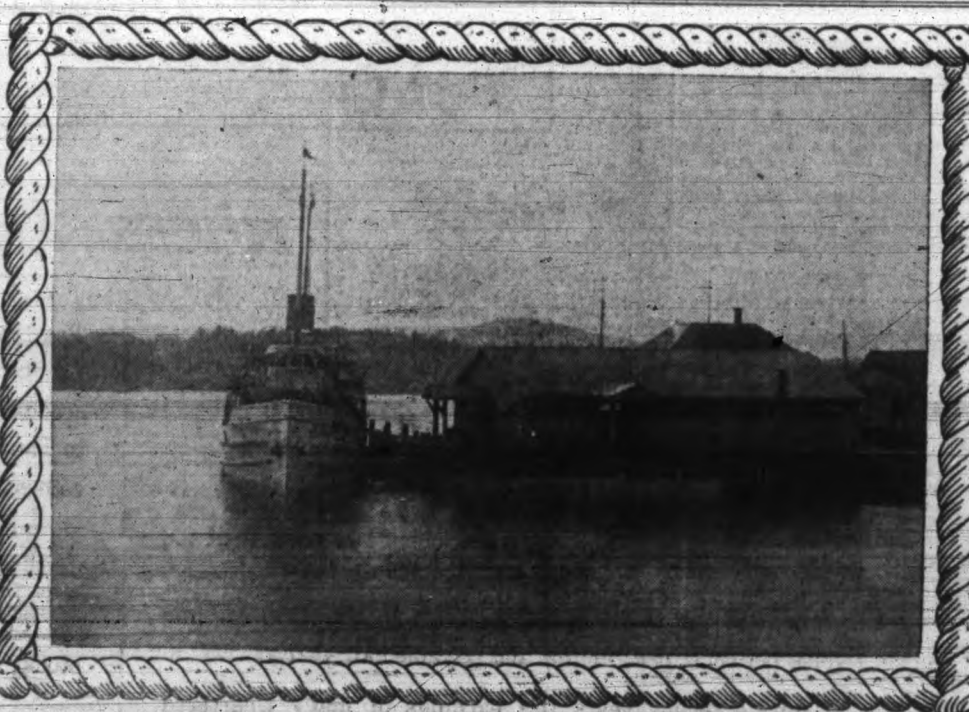
The circumstance that some of the oysters remained poor and lean, while others waxed fat, convinced the experts that not all the bivalves got a chance at the food provided, and after much thought they hit upon the idea of Utilising Currents.

In order to insure a proper distribution of the meals provided. To supply the necessary currents a canal faced with sheet piling was constructed along one side of the pond and communicating with it at both ends.

The canal is 150 feet in length by nine feet in width, and is provided with sixteen wooden floats or trays, each about five feet square and four inches deep. Each float is capable of holding about three barrels of oysters in a single layer, packed nib up, and is hung by ropes attached to small roller windlasses about six inches above the bottom. A current through the canal is produced by a propeller at the inlet, driven by a gasoline engine connected by rubber belting. Only poor, unsalable oysters are placed in the pond, and then, by means of the propeller, a current of about one mile per hour is maintained and carries over the famished oysters a constant supply of the rich oyster food previously prepared by means of the commercial fertilizer. This treatment never fails to cause the oysters in the pond to

Fatten Quickly and uniformly and there results an extremely low proportion of watery oysters.

Just how rapidly oysters can be fattened by this method has not yet been conclusively demonstrated, but one lot recently handled was raised from a very poor to a first class condition in eight days, which would indicate 175 barrels per month or 1,400 barrels during a season of eight months as the capacity of a two-acre farm.



ALASKA STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S NEW WHARF IN INNER HARBOR BUILT THIS YEAR.

Legendary Lore of Island Indians

How in Times Past the "Almighty" Appeared as Giant Salmon.
His Rewards for Good and Evil.

In a former article I have touched on the wondrous beauties, and on the vast possibilities of the Island of Vancouver and the adjacent lands and seas as the pleasure ground of the future. No mention was made in that incomplete sketch of the Indian tribes of this region, or of their customs and their many wild, romantic legends, and it is with the intention of setting forth some of the latter that I again take up the pen, and crave the attention of indulgent readers.

The Yok-wiltuth (commonly called Eucletaw) tribe of Indians, dwell on the extreme southern end of Valdes Island, just south of Seymour Narrows, and close under the shoulder of the immense sand promontory of Cape Mudge, one of the wildest spots in the Gulf of Georgia in a southeast gale. Jutting out into the gulf its high masses of sand bluffs exposed to and facing the point of the compass, and standing close to the line of the meeting tides, the southeasterly strike here with terrific fury, and render navigation in that vicinity of extreme danger at times, the fierce tide-rips threatening the safety of vessels as large as a good sized tow-boat. The ill-fated Estelle here met her doom some years ago.

The Indians comparatively recent years the tribe was feared and mistrusted by whites and Indians alike. In olden days they were the outlaws and outcasts from various neighboring tribes who gradually collected at this wild and isolated spot and in course of time formed an independent tribe through sympathy and for mutual protection. To be comparatively recent years the tribe was feared and mistrusted by whites and Indians alike. In olden days they were the outlaws and outcasts from various neighboring tribes who gradually collected at this wild and isolated spot and in course of time formed an independent tribe through sympathy and for mutual protection.

One day in the summer time we were sailing slowly over the northern part of the gulf. The soft, sweet morning breeze just dipped the sea with little chilly waves, save where the tide-rips made from Cape Mudge to the Vancouver shore, marking the line of the meeting of the waters, for at this time, slightly varying with the different phases of the moon, the tides meet; the north flood from the Straits of Juan de Fuca here meeting the south flow from Queen Charlotte Sound through Johnstone's Straits and Seymour Narrows.

Afar off, islands, hazy, green, and royal purple, olivines and amethysts in a sapphire sea, backed by masses of rough, hoary silver—the Coast Range of eternal snows.

It was a morning of dreamy peace, the scene one of surpassing beauty, the soft, languorous air bracing, yet soothing. Small wonder that old Peter, idly guiding the canoe with skillful hand, would find tongue and in his soft, dreamy fashion, relate stories of the "Aankhutly"—the Long-Ago.

"Years and years ago, so the oldest people told us when I was a boy; years ago, when the world was first made, the sea always flowed one way, always flooded north through the Narrows and to the far beyond. One day the Almighty came as a giant salmon, swimming against the tide. The Yok-wiltuths, who live near the Cape, used to go to the rocks near the Narrows and watch for the salmon passing by and spear them. This day one man stood on a rock watching, waiting. Presently he saw a big salmon coming, it was bigger and more beautiful than any other he had ever seen, and he waited, spear poised in hand, until the great fish should be near enough to strike. The fish came nearer, and cried out to the man not to strike.

"The man, amazed, asked 'who are you?'

"I am the Upper Spirit and I come to see that all is right in your land."

"Thereupon the man railed at the fish and raising his spear, struck hard. Deep into the fish's side sank the keen

bone spear, and exulting, the fisherman drew his prey out on the slippery rocks.

"You the Spirit!" he mocked. "Why then, do you allow the spear to kill you thus? I shall take you to the lodge, and my wife and I shall feast on you."

"But as he drew the great fish up the tough seal-skin things by which the detached spear-head was connected with the haft, suddenly pulled, and slipping back over the rocks, the fish, despite the man's efforts to check it, slid back into the water, leaving a track of blood in its path, and then the man heard it speak again.

"You did not heed when I told you I was the Almighty, but have wounded me. Now, as a sign that I have spoken the truth, my blood mark on the stone shall stay forever, and the waters shall be split, so that one half shall flow north and one half to the south, and there shall be death and destruction in the waters for you and yours as a punishment."

"Hearing this, the man became afraid and ran away. Meanwhile, the Almighty dove deep down in the sea, and rising slowly, he whirled his mighty tail about, and a whirlpool raced madly in his track. Again, and again he did this, until the whole channel was full of whirlpools where before was smooth running water, and the tide turned, one half going one way, one half the other. Thus you see it to-day, the tide dividing where the white foam shows, and the channel full of whirlpools which are so dangerous when the wind blows, and which have drawn under and drowned so many of the Yok-wiltuth when they are unwary."

"After a while, when this work was done, the 'Sakally Tyer'—literally, 'High Master'—the Almighty came out of the water on the dry land in the shape of a man, and walked across to the Yok-wiltuth village, and outside of one of the lodges he saw the man who had speared him, standing with a companion.

"Speaking, he said: 'Friends, I am hungry and tired; pray give me food and drink, for I have wandered far and am sore wounded.'

"Who are you?" asked the man.

"I am the Almighty, come to visit you, to hear your complaints, and to bring you peace in this land."

"Haw! haw! haw!" roared the man, "I speared a fish to-day, and he too said he was the Almighty. How then can you be Him. Where is my good spearhead, and where the wound in your side?"

"His companions also jeered, and picking up the gnarled, dry branch of a tree, crooked and knotty, he threatened to chastise the impostor."

"Then the Almighty raised His hand, and reaching to His side, picked out the double bladed spearhead, and the man, seeing this, and the blood streaming from where his sure hand had struck, knew this was the same Being, and becoming afraid, he turned and would have fled, but the Almighty reaching forth, grasped his hair with one hand and with the other thrust the two bone spear points deep into his face, one above, and one below the mouth, and cried to him with a great voice:

"You would not believe when I revealed Myself to you, but laughed, and thrust your spear into my side, and when I came again to you, tired and wounded, you still disbelieve, and mock me with idle words. As a punishment you shall go forth far from the lodges of men. Your living you shall earn by fishing. You shall wade in the ice-cold waters, and spear the fish with your own good spear which I now return to you. Mankind you shall shun, and give warning whenever man draws near, as you have done with me to-day. Haw! haw! haw!"

"Stooping, He picked up handfuls of grey ashes at his feet, the remains of past campfires, and plastering the man all over with these He bade him begone, and as he fled, shrieking in fright, the Almighty pulled his long hair out into a crest streaming at the back of his head, and lo! the Great Heron was created.

"Turning then to the trembling companion, He said: 'You, too, mocked with your friend; you would have beaten a travel-worn stranger who craved

hospitality. See then! I cover you with the shredded bark of the red cedar; this will be your coat forevermore. This tree limb—(dragging the branch from his hand)—I break in twain and plant on your brows—(thrusting the limbs deep into his head)—

you shall roam the forests, and the limbs on your head shall scrape and rattle and chatter against the tree trunks so that my people, when hungry, may hear and see you, and will then slaughter you for food and raiment."

"Released, the frightened creature sped away with long, springy leaps—the red coated deer."

"Going on His way, the Spirit entered a lodge. Great stores of dried roots, berries, and dulse hung in skin sacks about the split cedar walls. Overhead hung many racks of drying shellfish, salmon, and other fish. Fresh of seal, sealion and bear was curing in the smoke as it ascended from the open fire on the earth floor to the smokehole overhead. On raised benches built about the walls were many tanned furs, blankets woven from the wild goats' hair covering the soft moss beds. By the fire sat a woman, the wife of him who was now a heron.

"Pray, good woman, give me to eat a small portion of your generous store."

"But she answered: 'Who are you that I should feed you? Go work for your food as we have to. If I give food to every idle person we shall have none for winter's store.'

"I am the High Spirit," He replied. "I have travelled far and am sore wounded, and I hunger."

"Haw! haw! haw! You the High Spirit! Begone! lest my husband come and beat you and drive you away."

"Then the Almighty waxed wroth, and taking black coals from the hearth, He ground them between His palms and powdered the woman with them, holding her by the nose meanwhile.

"Go now and join your husband," He said. "He is sent over the shores. You shall haunt the lodges, picking up what morsels my people reject and cast out on the shell heaps. Charity you have denied Me; go now, and be forever dependent on charity."

"Being released, she fled screaming from the lodge, her nose pinched into a thin horn beak, her clothing nothing but black feathers—the coal-black crow."

"Leaving this lodge, the Almighty then went on, and presently came to where an old couple, a man and his wife, sat on their sunning boards outside their small lodge."

"A-la-Kalsala" (how fare you), they greeted. "A-la-Kalsala good people," He answered. Rising, they welcomed Him indoors, heaped wood on the fire, dressed His wound, and set before Him the best their scanty store afforded. Having eaten and drank, warmed Himself by the fire, and rested awhile on the soft couch, He asked His cheerful entertainers what they desired for their peace and comfort; what perils and evils beset the tribe, and how their welfare could best be served.

"Themselves, they told Him, not of their personal wants and old-age discomforts, but of how the tribes were harried and decimated by the fierce Hydahs, and how for days the old people dare not venture forth to fish or to hunt the seal because of them, and the Almighty promised His help.

"Then rising, He bade them farewell, they pressing Him to stay until His wound should be healed, for if He travelled in such condition He might become faint by the way and perish; but He laughed at their fears, and told them who He was, and that their charity and kindness to a stranger had already healed the wound, and then departed—as He came, no one knew whither.

"The old couple pondered long on the things He had said, but of what He did later to quell the power of the Hydah, I shall have to tell you again, for my story is already long."

"Peter ceased talking, and knowing it was useless to press for more, I was forced to be content to bide my time, and the breeze now giving out, he and his boatman, Leeward, bent their backs to the paddles to round the Cape before the change of wind and tide.—Walter B. Anderson.

Christmas Comes But Once a Year, and When It Comes It Brings Good Cheer.

The crowded streets, the brilliantly decorated shops—Xmas thoughts, conjure up the memory of past favors of former happy seasons; and faces light up with a new glow, and hearts are warmed in the interchange of gifts and friendly greetings; and toasts are drank in the good old fashioned way.

TOAST

May good humor preside when good fellows meet,
And reason prescribe when 'tis time to retreat.

TOAST

May our faults be written on the sea-shore,
And every good action prove a wave to wash them out.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Here's to Your Health in the Best That Is.

G. H. Mumm & Co's Extra Dry.
G. H. Mumm & Co's Selected Brut.
Prelar's Claret.
Prelar's Burgundy.
Prelar's Sauterne.
Kola Tonic Wine (non-alcoholic.)

Walker's Kilmarnock Scotch.
King William IV. V. O. P. Scotch.
Mackie & Co's White Horse Cellar Whiskey.
Old Blended Glenview Scotch.
Golden Lion Cocktails.

Allsopp's Burton-on-Trent Ale (on draught.)
Lemp's Extra Pale St. Louis Beer.
Carnegie's Swedish Porter.
White Rock Mineral Water.
Red Raven Splits (for the day after)

If your dealer cannot supply you with these—the purest and best—do not be imposed upon with inferior brands but telephone No. 148

TOAST

Here's to mine and here's to thine!
Now's the time to clink it!
Here's a flagon of old wine,
And here we are to drink it.

TOAST

Let schoolmasters puzzle their brain,
With grammar and nonsense and learning.
Good liquor, I stoutly maintain,
Give genius a better discerning.

PITHER & LEISER

Importers of Wines
and Liquors

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VICTORIA, B. C.

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TIMES BUILDING - VICTORIA, B.C.

Madame Recamier's Home

Demolition of Historic Building
Formerly Occupied by the
Famous Beauty

My attention was attracted one day while passing the corner of the Rue de la Chaise some years ago by the following notice pinned over an old "grille" surrounding a courtyard full of broken fragments of stone, old paneled doors and ten-nosed Roman senators, and in midst a colored statue of a turbaned and tressed Turk. Writes the "Toronto Globe," Such a place jumble in this old courtyard, which was surrounded by a half-demolished building in the style of Louis XIII. The notice ran thus:

"Demolition de l'ancien convent l'Abbaye-aux-Bois. A vendre: Quantite de boiserie, parquets de chêne, bois de charpente, 300 metres de moellons, plâtres, bois à bruler, etc."

Translation—"Demolition of the old convent of the Abbey-in-the-wood. To sell: Quantity of woodwork, flooring of oak timber, and 300 yards of flag stones, plasters, firewood. The administration of the demolition has given to the Museum Caravelle, the little door which closed at the first department of Madame Recamier."

For it was in this old abbey that the celebrated beauty found the repose she so much needed after her reverses of fortune. I give the following details of these old buildings, as it may interest my readers, which, in spite of its name,

was in the heart of Paris. The nuns of St. Augustin occupied the building latterly, but were obliged to leave it in consequence of the law of associations. The construction of the building itself was not imposing, and lacked unity, belonging to the period of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV., respectively. The walls surrounded the court, but were not harmonious, and the chapel was quite ordinary. It was, however, rich in associations, and these will prevent it from passing into oblivion.

For three centuries it was the home of a community of women. During the revolution it was used as a "maison d'arret," but since then was restored to its original use. From that time this abbey was open to receive ladies who, whilst desiring peace and repose, did not wish to withdraw themselves completely from the world. Notably there lived in this old abbey to the last years of her life a woman whose wit and beauty placed her in the foremost rank of society during the directorate, the consulate and the empire. I speak of Madame Recamier.

Madame Recamier retired to the Abbaye-aux-Bois at the beginning of the restoration, some little time after the death of her friend, Madame de Staël. Here is the description given of her "petite cellule" by M. de Chateaubriand:

"The chambre à coucher was furnished with bookshelves, a harp, a piano and a portrait of Mme. de Staël and a view of Coppet by moonlight. The windows were full of flowers. When breathless, after having climbed three stories, I entered into 'la cellule' as evening was falling I was entranced. The windows sloped to the garden of the abbey, and amidst its flowery verdure the nuns were slowly pacing backwards and forwards, whilst the school children were running about them. The top of an acacia was on a level with the eye, where pointed steeples were silhouetted against the sky. One saw in the distance the heights of St. Yves. The setting sun gilded this picture and entered the open windows, above which some birds had made their nests. I felt the silence and solitude from afar, over and above the tumult of a great city."

L'Abbaye-aux-Bois has been so well known for so many years that everyone knows about it to-day, but in 1819 this convent was little known, at least to the fashionable world, so that when la Marquise Moreau wished to go and see her friend in her retreat, as soon as Madame Recamier had taken up her residence there, she was obliged to order her dinner an hour earlier to be able to accomplish the journey "en pays lointain." As everyone liked to be in the fashion in those days also, it became very much the fashion to be admitted into the "Cellule de l'Abbaye-aux-Bois." M. de Chateaubriand went there daily, but was always received alone. Afterwards the doors were opened to a crowd of visitors. The Duc de Montmorency, the sculptor, David, D'Anger, Delacroix, the physicians, Humboldt and Ampere, Sainte-Beuve, the Historian, Augustin Thierry, the Queen Desirée of Sweden, the Duc de Noailles, etc. Louis Bonaparte went there once, also Beranger and Victor Hugo, whom Chateaubriand call at the time "l'enfant sublime."

The Brackman-Ker Milling Co., Ltd.

TRADE MARK
B&K
REGISTERED

LOW PRICES
LARGE STOCKS
PROMPT DELIVERY



New Offices and Warehouse—Corner Pandora and Broad Streets.

TRADE MARK
B&K
REGISTERED

LOW PRICES
LARGE STOCKS
PROMPT DELIVERY

ANNOUNCEMENT:

WE are now occupying our NEW OFFICES AND WAREHOUSE at the Corner of PANDORA AND BROAD STREETS, built especially by ourselves to meet the requirements of our largely increased trade. The immense growth in our business necessitated moving from our old Government Street Premises, and we now have in our NEW BUILDING a modern, up-to-date Flour and Feed Warehouse, fully equipped in every way and designed to handle the business quickly and economically. To our Many Friends and Customers and all those in the market for anything in our line, we extend a cordial welcome to our New Quarters. We want your business. Get our Prices before ordering elsewhere.

THE BRACKMAN-KER MILLING CO., LTD.

Cereal Millers and Dealers in Hay, Grain, Flour and Feed.

HUMAN CARRYING VANS

The Cargador of Mexico Is Giving
Place to Modern Conveyances

The cargador is one of the curiosities to the tourists, and one of the prominent factors in transportation to the residents of Mexico City, but more especially is he a factor in transportation in the interior. He carries everything from a trunk to household furniture. A tourist, upon seeing a party of cargadores jogging along with the entire furnishings of a house, aptly applied the following name to the party, the "Human Moving Vans of Mexico." They are more than moving vans, however, for no matter what you want carried, a cargador will carry it. He serves as the express wagon for your trunk, as a delivery wagon for your groceries and butchery. He can also be seen carrying large bales of hay and straw and he is not averse to serving as a hearse for the funeral of the poorer classes of the city. In fact, there is nothing that he will not carry, even to a safe.

He is usually small of stature, of squatly build, with broad, square shoulders and short, stout, well-muscled legs. To look at him, one would never think that he could carry the burdens that he does. This human beast of burden will, if he can once get under the load, carry off with apparent ease boxes, trunks, wardrobes, or any conceivable thing that is not too ungainly for one man to handle and no matter if it weighs between one hundred and three hundred and fifty pounds, he will jog along the street with it with an ease that is startling to the beholder for the first time.

His method of carrying it is just as strange to unaccustomed eyes as the immense loads he can bear. The burden is taken upon his back so that the load rests for the most part between his shoulders. A strap or rope is fastened under the load and is taken over the shoulders and ends in a band that rests across the head of the cargador. While the majority of the weight rests between his shoulders, the head bears a considerable portion of the weight, in that it prevents the load from slipping down his back.

When a thing is exceptionally heavy, or the destination exceptionally far, two or three cargadores will contract to carry it to the destination. One will take his turn for so many blocks, while one of the others will carry his hat and trot alongside of him. When the burden becomes too heavy or he thinks he has carried his share of the distance, he will squat upon his haunches and the other will carefully lower the load to the ground and the retiring freighter will slip his head out of the band and the other will take his place.

Then comes the most difficult part of the operation, namely, to get the box or whatever it may be upon the back of the new worker. The lifting power of these "human beasts of burden" is as small as their carrying capacity is great. A healthy, well-built American boy of 14 or 15 years can do feats of lifting that would put these men in the prime of life to shame, yet once they get a load upon their backs, they will carry two hundred pounds with more ease than an ordinary man can carry a sack of flour. Their back and arm muscles are weak, but their leg, shoulder and neck muscles are magnificent, from a physical culturist's point of view.

In moving furniture, these "moving vans" bring a heavy, stoutly made truck, very much like the trucks seen around railway stations, but wider and instead of wheels at one end it has handles at both. Two men will take one of these trucks, one at each end, and after they have been loaded with enough furniture to weigh down an ordinary spring wagon, they will pick it up and trot along a mile without stopping for breath. The method of handling these trucks is very much the same as a single man carrying a box. The weight is borne across the shoulders. It is transmitted by ropes ending in broad bands, usually of carpet or canvas, which fit across the shoulders, back over the neck and passing down over the chest to the handles of the truck. The hands and arms are used only for steadying the load.

Their charges, when compared with the transfer charges in other countries, are ridiculously small. For one peso, a cargador will carry a trunk weighing one hundred and fifty pounds a distance of considerably more than a mile, and if you are cold hearted enough, he will accept seventy-five or even fifty cents for the job.

The very cheapness of this labor made people shake their heads in doubt when the first transfer company was brave enough to lead into business in Mexico. But the cargadores are practically not in competition with the transfer companies of the city, as their work is at present along entirely different lines. The transfer companies get the work that is desired in a hurry and which is too heavy for cargadores to handle. In fact, several cargadores are employed by transfer companies to carry trunks for short distances which would hardly pay them to send a wagon to haul.

The cargadores, however, have a tendency to keep the transfer charges of the companies at a much lower level than they would likely be if their competition was not a factor in the transportation facilities of Mexico. That the cargador is a factor in transportation will be seen if one cares to visit the stations of the city and watch the dozens of them, with their ropes and bands and their brass number tags dangling from small chains around their necks, waiting for the arrival of trains and around the freight sheds looking for work.

Their honesty is assured by the municipal government, which licenses them and gives each his brass number tag. His photograph, number and all details that will lead to his detection, should he take it into his head to become dishonest, are kept on file and his arrest is sure to follow. He is handled just like all other public conveyances, like the red and blue coaches.

The age limit seems to have missed this profession. You see cargadores who are little more than boys, men in the prime of life, and old gray-headed men, who seem to be tottering on the edge of the grave, yet all take loads that would break the back of an ordinary man. Nor, as one would suppose, are they composed of the most ignorant of the lower classes. On the contrary, it is not an uncommon sight to see them sitting on the curb reading a newspaper while waiting for business to turn up.

These "travellers of Mexico" are diligent, industrious and, for the most part, sober. They take a pride in their work and attempt to outdo each other in the weight they can carry and the distance they can carry it. The rivalry is keen among them and they will bid against each other for a job. Their usual costume is a suit of white canvas and a straw hat of a particular type. Their feet are protected by usually dais. In place of a belt, they usually wear a sash of some bright color, usually red. Their suits, white or blue, are generally spotlessly clean.

They are a feature of Mexico just as the richness is a feature of Japan, and the coolie of China.

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THE MISTLETOE BOUGH

There are many conflicting stories about the mistletoe, which has ever been in evidence at this season, but all agree that, as they do now, that no Christmas would be complete without it.

In the old Norse mythology curses were once heaped upon it because it was the innocent instrument of the death of Baldr, the Beautiful, the latter was beloved by all the gods except "Loki, the Mischief Maker," who, through envy, contrived to put him out of the way. The story goes that while the sorrowing gods were weeping curses upon the mistletoe the God of Love appeared before them and picking up a piece of the plant thereafter, in memory of this bright, beautiful, gentle god, to greet each other with a kiss whenever they saw a piece of it, taking the instrument of his death as a symbol of love in order that his spirit might live. Since then whenever a branch is hung from the ceiling of a house, the custom of kissing is derived from the custom of stealing a kiss without offense from anyone standing beneath it.

Recent estimates gave 800,000 miles of telephone and telegraph pole lines in the United States. At an average of 40 poles to the mile, there are 32,000,000 in use, and assuming that the life of a pole is 15 years, there are needed each year more than 2,666,666 poles.

STRANGE FEAST

How Ship-Wrecked Crew
Spent Their Christmas Day.

The Crozets are a group of rocky islands in the southern Indian ocean far off the track of the great Australian liners, and a favorite ground for whaling expeditions. The Christmas double number of the Pall Mall Magazine contains a long and faithful record, which many fine illustrations, of the hardships of a Norwegian crew which was wrecked there in December last, and endured the depth and rigors of an almost Antarctic winter. Not the least interesting portion is the account of such Christmas rejoicings as they managed to improvise out of the wretched fare that remained from the wreck. After untold sufferings from exposure, they contrived to collect enough driftwood from the ship to build a hut, which they called "Christmas House" in honor of the season.

During the first few days before getting into shape, says the narrator, Captain Bull, the leader of the expedition, we had a variety of food, the different ingredients of which would no doubt astonish any man with a sense of gastronomy. I would here mention that we had on board a fair quantity of kerosene for our motor engine; this oil of course ran out when the vessel split, and all the provisions saved from the vessel—coffee, beans, peas, flour and a very small quantity of bread—got a taint of kerosene, besides a thorough soaking of the sea-water. Well, a peculiar dish was prepared by our cook, the taste of which I don't think we shall forget to our dying day; and here is the recipe, in case some of you might like to try it: bread soaked in sea-water, flavored with kerosene and mixed with a fair quantity of fine sand from the beach and ashes from the open fireplace, all jumbled up with plenty of corned beef and made into a heavy thick stew. Eat it hot, it grew in your mouth every time you moved your tongue, and the peculiar feeling of sand between your teeth and the strong taste of kerosene made you fear for the moment that you would never be able to swallow it.

A stove on board was saved, and contributed largely, once the "hut" was built, to our comfort and well-being. There was a special small room arranged for the kitchen, out of the big oil-kettles found on the island being used as a fireplace, and as we settled down more and more to our new and strange life, everything began to take a fairer shape and form. The chowchow was no longer in requisition, and, properly friend or boiled, penquin with soup was now one of our main courses. At a later stage of our island life, our cook invented a kind of mince-meat cakes of albatross meat, which, fried in whale blubber, were really delicious.

I had brought with me from home a small pine tree, which he had care-

fully nursed on board and kept green all the time. Loving hands had sent with us heavy parcels of presents for the crew and all kinds of ornaments for the tree, and Captain Bee and I were on the passage always hopeful of spending a merry Christmas in the small but comfortable cab on board the schooner. Well, these hopes were not fulfilled, and the tree of course disappeared in the wreckage; but the sea gave back Captain Bee's Christmas parcel, containing a nice lot of things for himself and a pair of woollen mittens knitted by his sisters for each of the crew. One of the small colored Christmas candles was picked up on the beach, and together with a few inches of stearine candle, enabled us to place two candles on our table besides a couple of bouquets of native flowers placed in empty milk tins, to say nothing of the ornamental display of a small tablecloth and two miniature Norwegian flags; so that the table, to us, looked almost dazzling with light and glitter. Capt. Bee had boasted as his private property four bottles of brandy, the only spirits on board. Two bottles had been served out on special occasions during the passage, the third was given out when Hog Island was sighted through the mist, and strangely enough, the last bottle was saved and carefully guarded for Christmas Eve. At 6 o'clock, supper, consisting of a splendid so-called butter-porridge with milk, was served, and we all had our very liberal share of the substantial meal. In the course of the evening, the Gospel of "Peace on earth and good will towards men" was read, a few words said about "Peace on earth," so Christmas hymns were sung, and finally a few fairy tales retold from the book. At 9 o'clock our Christmas Eve at the island ended, and every one pleased and satisfied with the events of the day.

The account goes on to relate many adventures on the island, the sending of messages by all the albatrosses they managed to capture, and the rescue of the crew by a passing Australian steamer. The chief heroes have since been decorated by the King of Norway.

A CHRISTMAS TRAGEDY.

Christmas on the kerbstones of Ludgate hill, London, has been abolished by order of the commissioner of police for the city of London. From now until the Christmas season is over, squeaking rabbits and dying chickens and creeping crocodiles will squeak and die and crawl no more under the shadow of St. Paul's. There will be no more flower girls with "lovely" roses, only one penny; no more patriarch spinning tops for ever and for ever; no more penny diabolo, no more collar studs. The kerbstones Christmas is no more.

The commissioner issued his order recently. Already a police sergeant has communicated the melancholy news to the forty or fifty hawkers who are the vanguard of an army which concentrates upon the hill at Christmas time, and within a few days of the festival, itself, generally forms up shoulder to shoulder from St. Paul's to Ludgate Circus.

Leather trunks were used, in Rome at the time of Caesar.

PROFIT FROM POULTRY

Excellent Opportunity on Vancouver
Island for Success in Industry

There is no district in Canada so well suited to poultry raising as the south end of Vancouver Island. There are several good and sufficient reasons for this. In the first place the equable climate, the avoiding of excessive cold or heat, is a very great advantage in poultry farming, no matter whether it be for geese or ducks, or for chickens or turkeys. All of these are affected materially by severe cold, and they do not thrive well when the weather is excessively hot.

While the above is true if nothing else were necessary, the lower mainland of British Columbia would be equally as good a place for the business as the Victoria district, because the temperature variations are very similar all along the coast. Where the Victoria district.

Has the Advantage
In the fact that the rainfall is much smaller here than in any other place on the coast of British Columbia. The statistics published regularly by the Dominion government show that in Victoria the precipitation is very much less and the percentage of sunshine very much greater than at any other point on the coast or inland this side of Kamloops. The result is that chickens lay much more regularly, as nothing affects their laying so much as heavy rain, or severe cold.

The mildness of the climate and its suitability for poultry may be gauged by the fact that the most up to date poultry houses are constructed without glass, the fronts being kept

Open All the Time
unless there happens to be a very severe storm, when a curtain is dropped over the front of the house. Hens love sunshine, and the houses are always constructed that the occupants may be able to obtain the maximum amount possible.

Another reason why the poultry business can be carried on successfully on the coast is the fact that there is always a market for the product. The mountains of British Columbia have as yet only been scratched in spots. The physical development has only just commenced. The mining and lumber camps all need eggs and chickens, and because the miners earn high wages they are able and willing to pay high prices for what they use. They like the best of everything, therefore they prefer the

Home-Produced Eggs
to the imported, because they are fresher and can be relied upon. The result is that Vancouver Island eggs are sought after by the housewife as eggs are selling at 60c, and the latter have just dropped to that price from 75c because of the mild winter.

Besides the eggs, the table birds always command a good price. At present the live weight price for chickens is 15c a pound and of ducks 15c a

pound. Capons are worth a little more but they are too large to sell in any great quantity. Turkeys are selling at 20c a pound and geese about 25c. These are

Remunerative Prices
and should be an inducement to more people to take up the business. The dealers complain that they cannot get enough table poultry—that the demand always exceeds this supply.

There are several methods of taking up the business. One is from the farmer's standpoint, keeping nothing but the best prize stock and showing the birds at the poultry shows. As soon as a name has been made, big prices can be demanded for the stock, and often money is made in this way. Others keep fowls simply for egg production. They confine their business to the laying breeds and strains, and raise only just sufficient chickens to keep up the supply of pullets for their stock. The other method is to study

The Table Market
and raise chickens for it, making the egg selling subordinate to the producing of the table birds. There is plenty of room in every line.

Chickens will not keep themselves. They must be kept and studied if they are to be made a success. Only a few days ago a gentleman in the city who has been keeping poultry for years, who is intensely interested in his hobby, and who gives a

Good Deal of Study
to it, stated that he was only just beginning to find out that he knew almost nothing about poultry. So it is always. The tyro thinks he knows all about it and if he goes too fast he falls. If he continues steadily he comes to the point when he decides that he knows nothing. Then he is just reaching the place where he can make the business a success.

It is necessary in order to conduct a poultry farm successfully that the person going in for it have enough land to grow vegetables and other green food for the poultry. They will not do well without this. The run should also be big enough for the chickens to have a change now and then.

A Very Useful House
has lately been designed by Messrs. W. Bally and S. Y. Wootton. It is so arranged that the chickens can have a run both in front and back of the house, thus giving them a change from time to time.

Some of the Victoria poultry yards are now being converted into orchards, and the district is becoming a centre for the business for which it will soon be as well known as for its fruit farms. In fact, the two go very well together. The orchards may be very much improved by the running of poultry through them without in any way damaging the fruit.

WEILER BROS

COMPLETE HOME FURNISHERS

IN YOUR BIG HOLIDAY STORE

Xmas is so near one can almost hear the Bells—only two shopping days. Preparations most unusual have been made with a view to a record-breaking two days' selling. Odd pieces and tardy arrivals have been marked uncommonly low to clear during these two days and we confidently expect a fitting climax to the best holiday season we have known. Come in this evening or early Monday morning.

What 15c Will Do

This modest sum will buy here more than twenty-five cents worth in most china stores. Odd pieces worth 25c. and more have been put on this counter. A hundred different articles.

What 25c Will Do

On this counter you'll find some of the finest china bits—value that run to 50c. and more. Odd pieces and delinquent arrivals that have been placed here to clear quickly. Excellent gifts.

What 50c Will Do

This counter holds values that run up to and past the dollar mark. Odd pieces and late arrivals worth double and more, have been put on this to sell during the next two days. Handsome china, all.

The Carpet Store

Hemstitched Table Linen

Linen Damask Table Cloths, 2 yds. x 2 yds., \$4.00 to \$5.00.
Linen Damask Table Cloths, 2 yds. x 2 1/2 yds., \$5.00 to \$6.00.
Table Napkins to match, at per doz., \$3.00 to \$4.00.
Mexican Drawn Work on Grass Linen, Scarfs, Centre Pieces and Tray Cloths, at each, \$1.75 to \$2.50.

Japanese Draft Screens

A 4-fold Japanese Draft Screen in handsome black and gold design, special value, at each, \$3.50.
THE CARPET STORE is teeming with excellent gifts in Hearth Rugs, Oriental Rugs and Carpets in endless variety. Down Quilts and Comforters.

Linens, Draperies

And all such so necessary for home's proper furnishing. Truly these articles are sensible and acceptable gifts. Most any article picked from the Drapery Department will carry with it joy to the heart of the lady receiving the gift.

Cushions and Coverings

Cushion Tops in tapestry and brocade, from each, 25c. to \$1.00.
Sateen Covered Cushions with wide double frills, large variety, at each, \$1.50 to \$2.00.
Sofa Pillows, covered in silk plush, brocade linen taffeta and art'sateen, trimmed with satin, frills and cords, from ea. h, \$2.25 to \$3.50.

The Finest Collection of Oriental Brass Goods Ever Shown in Victoria

Loveliness in Glass

Some Handsome "Libbey" Creations

Quite aside from the question of its superior loveliness—the intrinsic value of LIBBEY CUT GLASS is infinitely greater than that of any other cut glass made. The finest workmanship and the finest workshop in the world—the highest possible degree of care and skill and artistry—all these elements give it a worth and value that is absolutely unique.

We are sole agents in Victoria for this exquisite ware. It glitters here in all its purity of color and cutting, thorough workmanship and exclusive style. Come in and see it sparkle in the finest cut glass room in Canada.

Candle Sticks, each \$5.00 and \$7.50.
Oil Bottles, each \$3.50 to \$5.00.
Jugs, each \$10.00, \$15.00.
Water Bottles, each \$5.00, \$7.50, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$12.00.
Hair Receivers, each \$5.00.
Olive, Bon Bon and Preserve Dishes, each \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50.
Cologne Bottles, each \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00.
Flower Vases, 6 to 12 in., each \$4, \$5.50, \$12 to \$30.
Sugars and Creams, pair, \$6.00, \$10.00 and \$12.00.
Bowls, shallow or deep from each \$5.00.

WORLD'S FINEST POTTERY

Ioga Art Ware Royal Vienna Wedgewood
Aynsley China Marmorzellan Brethly Ware
Royal Worcester Royal Dux Devon Ware
Royal Copenhagen Royal Doulton Dutch Delft
Japanese Cloisonne and Satsuma

An Unequalled Collection Here

Furniture Store

TARBOURETTES OR JARDINIERE STANDS—Golden Oak, Weathered Oak, Mahogany, Pyro-decorated or Wicker, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50 to \$6.00.

FOOT RESTS—In weathered oak, upholstered in leather, \$2.50.

BOOK AND MAGAZINE RACKS—In Early English and Weathered oak, mission styles, \$1.00, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.75, \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.00, \$15.00.

HANDSOME REED CHAIRS—Big assortment new styles, in Reed, Chairs, Reception Chairs, Comfort Arm Chairs, Misses' Arm Chairs and Rockers, Plain and fancy designs, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50 up to \$25.00.

NURSES' ROCKERS—In Mahogany or Oak, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.75, \$4.50.

COBBLER SEAT ROCKERS—Hardwood and any finish, \$2.50, \$3.25 and up to \$5.00.

TEA & CARD TABLES—Fine assortment in latest designs, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00 up to \$15.00. Folding Card Tables in Mahogany finish, \$5.50. In Golden Oak or Weathered Oak, \$6.50. Folding Chairs to match, Mahogany Finish, \$2.50. Golden Oak or Weathered Oak, \$3.00.

COMFORTABLE MORRIS CHAIRS—As Christmas tokens soon singled out for special distinction, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$12.00, \$15.00 and \$18.00 each according to covering. Some regal styles in Weathered Oak, Antwerp or English finishes, also in Quarter-cut oak, selected grain, at \$25.00, \$27.00, \$30.00, \$33.00 and \$35.00 each.

LADIES' DESKS AND WRITING TABLES—A choice selection in many woods and finishes, from \$8.00 to \$20.00 each.

UMBRELLA STANDS—In Golden Oak, Weathered Oak and Austrian, \$10.00, \$12.00, at each, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$5.50, \$8.00, \$10.00.

DINING ROOM TABLES—In Maple and Oak. A splendid selection, ranging in price from \$9.50 up to \$55.00.

Silverware Gifts

Silver Plated Tea Service, 4 pieces, Plain design or satin engraved, \$15.00.
Sugar Basins and Cream Jugs to match, large choice, newest patterns, pair \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00.
Toast Baskets, each, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.50.
Marmalade Dishes in Crystal best quality, silver plated frames, each \$2.50, \$4.00, \$5.00.
In daintily decorated China Dishes, each \$2.50.
Fruit Stands in Crystal and Decorated Glass Dishes, each \$2.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00.
Butter Dishes, covered, in plain engraved and satin finished styles, each \$2.50, \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.00, \$7.00 and \$10.00.

"Rogers' 1847" Silverware

"THE WARE THAT WEARS"

—Let us show you our very complete line of KNIVES, FORKS AND SPOONS, in plain and fancy designs—the most pleasing styles at popular prices.

Spoons from \$4.00 dozen. Forks from \$5.00 dozen. Knives from \$3.50 dozen.

Gifts are more appreciated when put up in a presentable form. The following lines of "Rogers' 1847" Silverware are neatly fitted in plush lined boxes:
Pie Knives, each, plain, \$2.50; gilt, \$3.00.
Soup Ladles, plain or satin bowls, \$4.00.
Berry Spoons, each, plain, \$2.00; gilt, \$2.50.
After Dinner Coffee Spoons, Box 6, \$2.00.
Oyster Forks, plain or fancy, Box 6, \$2.00.
Children's Sets of Knife, Fork and Spoon, plain patterns, set \$1.75; fancy designs, set \$2.00.
Avon sets, 2 pieces, consisting of Sugar Shell, Butter Knife and Cream Ladle, set \$2.50.
Butter Knife and Sugar Shells, set, \$1.00 to \$1.75.
Sugar Tongs, various designs, each \$1.75.
Bouillon Spoons, set \$1.75.

The China Shop

DAINTY CHINA-GIFT THINGS—Tea-cup and Saucers, Breakfast Cups, After Dinner Coffee and Afternoon Teas, at each 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 up to \$2.00. Bread and Butter Plates, at per doz., \$2.00 to \$2.50. Cake Plates, at each, 25c, 50c, 75c, up to \$1.00. Moustache Cups and Saucers, from each, 50c. Sugars and Creams, per pair, 75c to \$2.50. Berry or Salad Bowls, at each, 50c to \$3.50. Bon Bon Dishes, each, 50c up to \$2.50. Biscuit Jars, from each, \$1.75 to \$4.00. Cabarets, 1, 2, or 3 divisions, from each \$1.50. Cheese Stands, from each, 50c to \$2.00. Chocolate Pots, from each, \$1.50 to \$4.00. Cream and Milk Jugs, from each 50c to \$2.00. Muffin Dishes, from each, \$1.00. Tea-pots, from each, 50c to \$3.00. Celery Trays, from each, 50c to \$2.50.

RUSKIN ART POTTERY—This is the very latest in Art Pottery, and some of the most artistic ware we have ever unpacked. Never before shown in this country, and shown only at this store.

Vases, from each 50c to \$6.00.
Bowls, from each 75c to \$6.00.
Puff Boxes, at each \$1.00.
Inkwell, at each \$1.50.
Nut Bowls, at each \$2.00.

HERALDIC DECORATION—Same ware as the Dimerick but decorated with the Canadian Coat of Arms. Very pretty and low priced. Cups and Saucers, each 20c. Plates, each 50c; Square, each 50c; Creams, each 50c; Vases, each 20c.

CHINA-TEA SERVICES—A very wide range of handsome Tea Sets (40 pieces) in English and French China. Fascinating decorations. Prices range from \$4.00 up to \$25.00.

DINNER SERVICES—In handsome Dinner Services we stock a very large and varied assortment. All the best potteries are represented. In Wedgewood Dinnerware we have some excellent sets ranging in price from \$20 to \$200.

Try to
Shop
Early

For "HER"

The momentous question is easily settled here. The difficulties fade amidst the wealth of gift suggestions to be seen here. Visit this store before you decide.

Silver-Mounted Oak

Afternoon Tea Trays, each \$2.00 to \$4.00.
Butter Dishes, \$2.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50.
Biscuit Jars, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00.
and
Salad Bowls, each \$5.50, \$6.00 and \$10.00.
Dinner Dishes, each \$2.00 to \$5.00.
Glass Cabinets, each \$5.00 to \$10.00.
Liquor Frames, 2 bottles, \$5.00 to \$15.00.

For "HIM"

Here's a store where selection comes easily through the silent influence of the hundred and one things made for "His" taste and decoration. Just see!

Fireside Furniture

Black and Brass Korbs, 36 in., each \$1.00; 42 in., \$1.25; 48 in., \$1.50.
All Brass Korbs, from each \$2.50 up to \$5.00.
Brass Fire Sets, 3 pieces, \$3.75, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00.
Brass Fire Sets on Stand, 4 pieces, \$8 and \$10.00.

Visit
Every
Floor